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.1752 Wool

# The WOOL SITUATION

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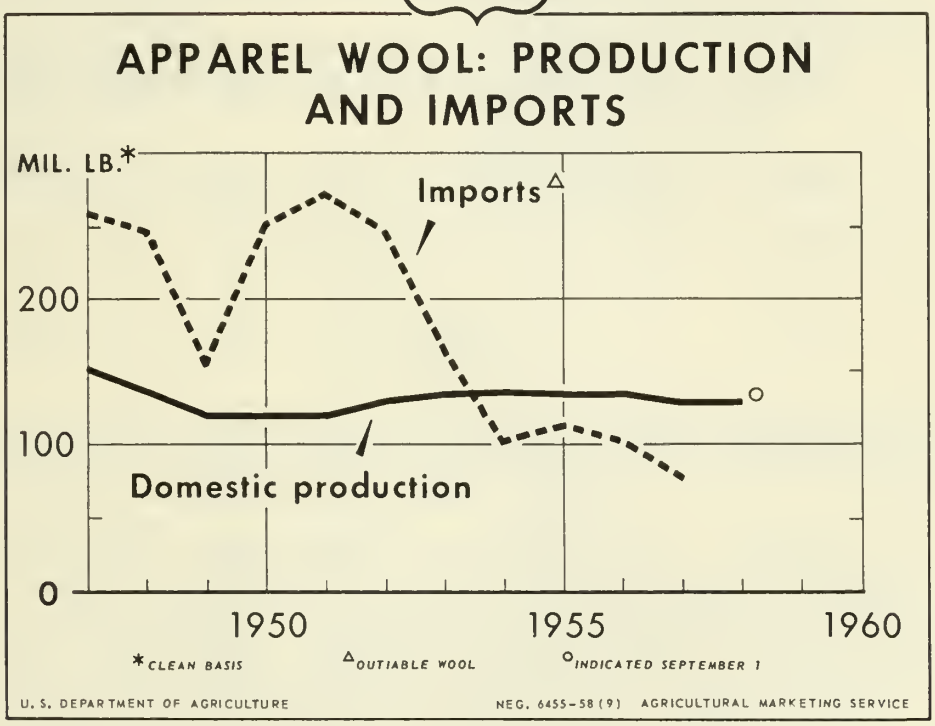
IN THIS ISSUE:
THE MOHAIR SITUATION
TRENDS IN WOOL CONSUMPTION

AMS




Domestic wool production this year is about the same as last year. The shorn wool clip is estimated at 2 percent larger than last year. But with slaughter of sheep and lambs running below last year, production of pulled wool probably will total below last year. As numbers of sheep are rising some further increase in shorn wool output next year is likely.

Imports of dutiable wool for consumption are down considerably this year. The drop this year, the third in succession, is associated with a much lower rate of mill use of apparel wool during most of the year.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Part I a.- Prices

| Item | Unit | 1957 | | | | | | 1958 | | | | | | Last data available as percent of a year earlier |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | |
| Wool | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Average price received by farmers, grease basis | Cents per pound | 55.3 | 54.3 | 52.3 | 51.0 | 50.9 | 45.9 | 47.1 | 43.5 | 37.7 | 37.4 | 37.4 | 36.9 | 71 |
| Parity price 1/ | Cents per pound | 65.2 | 65.2 | 65.4 | 65.4 | 65.9 | 66.1 | 69.5 | 69.8 | 70.8 | 70.8 | 70.5 | 70.8 | 108 |
| Farm as percent of parity | Percent | 85 | 83 | 80 | 78 | 77 | 69 | 68 | 62 | 53 | 53 | 53 | 52 | |
| Boston, clean basis 2/ | Cents per pound | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Domestic | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Graded territory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fine good French combing and staple | do. | 167.5 | 167.5 | 163.8 | 156.0 | 150.0 | 143.8 | 140.0 | 137.5 | 115.0 | 113.0 | 112.5 | 112.5 | 69 |
| 1/2 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 159.4 | 160.0 | 156.2 | 147.5 | 140.0 | 131.2 | 125.0 | 123.1 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 69 |
| 3/8 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 134.0 | 134.0 | 130.2 | 128.1 | 127.5 | 120.0 | 115.0 | 113.8 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 75 |
| 1/4 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 126.0 | 127.5 | 125.2 | 124.4 | 123.2 | 115.6 | 110.0 | 109.4 | 92.5 | 92.5 | 92.5 | 92.5 | 74 |
| Low 1/4 blood | do. | 115.5 | 120.0 | 118.1 | 117.5 | 117.5 | 103.8 | 92.5 | 92.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 74 |
| Common and braid | do. | 101.5 | 101.5 | 101.5 | 101.5 | 100.8 | 92.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 81 |
| Graded fleece | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Delaine | do. | 177.5 | 177.5 | 173.8 | 164.0 | 150.0 | 145.0 | 140.0 | 138.8 | 120.0 | 118.0 | 117.5 | 117.0 | 67 |
| 1/2 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 151.7 | 152.5 | 148.8 | 140.0 | 130.0 | 121.2 | 118.0 | 116.1 | 102.5 | 102.5 | 102.5 | 102.5 | 69 |
| 3/8 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 127.2 | 128.5 | 126.5 | 123.2 | 118.8 | 111.5 | 107.0 | 102.1 | 88.2 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 69 |
| 1/4 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 122.8 | 124.5 | 123.1 | 120.5 | 112.5 | 105.0 | 102.0 | 97.1 | 85.5 | 83.9 | 86.1 | 84.8 | 69 |
| Low 1/4 blood | do. | 116.7 | 121.0 | 118.4 | 114.5 | 107.5 | 97.5 | 92.5 | 92.5 | 77.5 | 77.5 | 81.0 | 80.0 | 68 |
| Common and braid | do. | 95.0 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 91.2 | 87.5 | 87.5 | 77.5 | 77.5 | 77.5 | 77.5 | 82 |
| Original bag Texas | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fine 12 months good French combing and staple | do. | 185.0 | 185.0 | 177.5 | 168.0 | 160.0 | 153.8 | 149.0 | 141.2 | 120.0 | 118.0 | 117.5 | 117.5 | 66 |
| Fine 8 months (1" and over) | do. | 160.0 | 160.0 | 156.2 | 148.0 | 140.0 | 133.8 | 130.0 | 126.9 | 110.0 | 109.0 | 107.5 | 103.8 | 66 |
| Fine fall (3/4" and over) | do. | 145.0 | 145.0 | 141.2 | 133.0 | 125.0 | 118.8 | 115.0 | 106.9 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 95.0 | 92.5 | 66 |
| Imported, excluding duty | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australian | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp | do. | 167.5 | 167.5 | 167.5 | 165.5 | 147.5 | 137.5 | 132.5 | 132.5 | 127.5 | 124.5 | 122.5 | 122.5 | 73 |
| 64's, 70's good topmaking | do. | 162.5 | 162.5 | 162.5 | 160.5 | 142.5 | 132.5 | 127.5 | 127.5 | 122.5 | 119.5 | 117.5 | 117.5 | 72 |
| 64's, combing | do. | 157.5 | 157.5 | 157.5 | 155.5 | 137.5 | 127.5 | 122.5 | 122.5 | 117.5 | 114.5 | 112.5 | 112.5 | 71 |
| 58's, 60's combing | do. | 147.5 | 147.5 | 147.5 | 145.5 | 127.5 | 117.5 | 112.5 | 112.5 | 107.5 | 104.5 | 102.5 | 102.5 | 69 |
| Montevideo | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0's (58's, 60's) | do. | 141.5 | 141.5 | 141.5 | 142.5 | 146.5 | 133.5 | 115.5 | 115.5 | 114.5 | 106.5 | 106.5 | 98.5 | 70 |
| 1's (56's) | do. | 134.0 | 134.0 | 134.0 | 136.1 | 144.5 | 130.5 | 108.0 | 108.0 | 107.5 | 97.0 | 97.0 | 95.0 | 71 |
| 2's (50's) | do. | 130.0 | 130.0 | 130.0 | 131.8 | 139.0 | 126.2 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 92.5 | 71 |
| 3's (46's 48's) | do. | 97.5 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 98.0 | 102.0 | 99.0 | 99.0 | 83.5 | 83.5 | 81.5 | 84 |
| 4's (44's) | do. | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 95.2 | 96.5 | 96.5 | 96.5 | 84.5 | 84.5 | 81.5 | 86 |
| 5's (40's) | do. | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 94.5 | 95.2 | 96.5 | 96.5 | 96.5 | 84.5 | 84.5 | 81.5 | 86 |
| Buenos Aires | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5's (40's) | do. | 93.0 | 93.0 | 93.0 | 92.4 | 87.0 | 84.5 | 79.4 | 77.1 | 67.5 | 67.5 | 66.8 | 64.5 | 69 |
| 5/6's (40/36's) | do. | 91.5 | 91.5 | 91.5 | 90.8 | 85.0 | 82.5 | 76.5 | 74.5 | 65.5 | 65.5 | 64.8 | 62.5 | 68 |

1/ Effective parity prices as computed currently using base prices in effect and indexes for months indicated. These parity prices are the legally applicable parity prices for the following month. 2/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.

# THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, October 27, 1958

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## SUMMARY


The 1958-59 world wool clip is expected to be as large as, or slightly larger than, that for 1957-58. The sharp decline in consumption suggests some stock accumulation and larger total world supplies.

The seasonally adjusted rate of consumption for the 10 countries as a group which report quarterly to the Commonwealth Economic Committee, dropped sharply in the third quarter of last year and continued to decline through the second quarter of this year, the latest quarter for which information is available. The decline largely reflected a world-wide textile recession associated with a working down of inventories of manufactures. These countries normally account for about two-thirds of total world mill use.

In the United States, mill use of both apparel and carpet wool began to ease off after reaching a cyclical peak around mid-1956. The decline in use of apparel wool "bottomed out" at about the turn of this year. The textile recession, accompanied by a reduction of inventories of textile products in manufacturing and distribution channels, probably was the major factor in the decline. But the long-term trend to lighter-weight clothing and increasing competition from manmade fiber also contributed. The decline in economic activity toward the end of last year may have accelerated the decline.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I b - Prices

| Item | Unit | 1957 July | 1957 Aug. | 1957 Sept. | 1957 Oct. | 1957 Nov. | 1957 Dec. | 1958 Jan. | 1958 Feb. | 1958 June | 1958 July | 1958 Aug. | 1958 Sept. | Last data available as percent of a year earlier |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wool | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| British Dominion markets 1/ | Cents | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 70's | per | 160.3 | --- | 148.5 | 142.3 | 135.5 | 123.9 | 125.4 | 131.4 | 124.2 | 114.5 | --- | 107.5 | 72 |
| 64's | pound | 151.0 | --- | 139.3 | 131.8 | 124.9 | 112.2 | 114.9 | 119.7 | 112.4 | 105.1 | --- | 96.9 | 70 |
| 60's | do. | 139.4 | --- | 132.3 | 124.8 | 119.1 | 107.6 | 110.2 | 113.8 | 104.2 | 97.0 | --- | 88.8 | 67 |
| 58's | do. | 132.4 | --- | 126.5 | 119.0 | 113.3 | 102.9 | 104.3 | 107.9 | 96.0 | 87.6 | --- | 81.8 | 65 |
| 56's | do. | 119.6 | --- | 117.2 | 110.8 | 101.6 | 98.2 | 93.8 | 95.0 | 83.2 | 83.0 | --- | 79.4 | 68 |
| 50's | do. | 98.7 | --- | 96.3 | 91.0 | 85.2 | 81.8 | 78.5 | 77.4 | 67.9 | 66.6 | --- | 64.2 | 67 |
| 48's | do. | 96.4 | --- | 92.8 | 87.5 | 82.9 | 79.5 | 76.2 | 75.1 | 63.2 | 64.3 | --- | 61.9 | 67 |
| 46's | do. | 95.3 | --- | 90.5 | 85.2 | 81.7 | 78.3 | 73.8 | 72.7 | 60.9 | 63.1 | --- | 60.7 | 67 |
| Mohair | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Average price received by farmers for Texas mohair, grease basis | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 70.0 | 70.0 | 66.0 | 77.0 | --- |
| Parity price 2/ | do. | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.2 | 85.2 | 85.8 | 86.1 | 91.5 | 91.8 | 93.0 | 93.0 | 92.7 | 93.0 | 109 |
| Farmers' price as percent of parity | Percent | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 75 | 75 | 71 | 83 | |
| Boston market prices for Texas mohair, grease basis 3/ | Cents per | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Graded | pound | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 1 Kid (Bulk 36's) | do. | 200.0 | 200.0 | 195.0 | 190.0 | 190.0 | 182.5 | 173.5 | 167.5 | 147.5 | 160.0 | 160.0 | 160.0 | 82 |
| No. 2 Kid (Bulk 32's) | do. | 165.0 | 165.0 | 172.5 | 177.0 | 172.5 | 167.5 | 162.5 | 157.5 | 132.5 | 140.0 | 140.0 | 140.0 | 81 |
| No. 1 Grown (Bulk 28's) | do. | 130.0 | 130.0 | 125.0 | 119.0 | 117.5 | 112.5 | 106.5 | 97.5 | 92.5 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 88 |
| No. 2 Grown (Bulk 24's) | do. | 110.0 | 110.0 | 105.0 | 99.0 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 93.5 | 92.5 | 72.5 | 80.0 | 80.0 | 80.0 | 76 |
| No. 3 Grown (Bulk 20's) | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 96.2 | 90.5 | 87.5 | 82.5 | 78.5 | 77.5 | 62.5 | 70.0 | 70.0 | 70.0 | 73 |
| No. 4 Grown (Bulk 18's) | do. | 90.0 | 90.0 | 86.2 | 80.5 | 77.5 | 77.5 | 73.5 | 72.5 | 52.5 | 65.0 | 65.0 | 65.0 | 75 |
| Sorted | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 40's | do. | 240.0 | 240.0 | 227.5 | 215.0 | 215.0 | 202.5 | 191.5 | 185.0 | 190.0 | 190.0 | 190.0 | 187.5 | 82 |
| 36's | do. | 200.0 | 200.0 | 195.0 | 190.0 | 190.0 | 177.5 | 166.5 | 160.0 | 168.8 | 170.0 | 170.0 | 170.0 | 87 |
| 32's | do. | 170.0 | 170.0 | 166.2 | 162.5 | 162.5 | 152.5 | 141.5 | 135.0 | 143.8 | 145.0 | 145.0 | 142.5 | 86 |
| 30's | do. | 155.0 | 155.0 | 153.8 | 152.5 | 152.5 | 142.5 | 131.5 | 125.0 | 133.8 | 135.0 | 135.0 | 132.5 | 86 |
| 26's | do. | 135.0 | 135.0 | 128.8 | 122.5 | 122.5 | 117.5 | 107.5 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 82 |
| 22's | do. | 115.0 | 115.0 | 111.2 | 107.5 | 107.5 | 92.5 | 88.5 | 87.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 81.2 | 73 |
| 18's | do. | 110.0 | 110.0 | 106.2 | 102.5 | 102.5 | 87.5 | 83.5 | 82.5 | 77.5 | 71.5 | 67.5 | 68.8 | 65 |
| Manmade staple fiber | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Viscose, 1½ denier 4/ | do. | 29.0 | 30.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 100 |
| Acetate, 5 denier 4/ | do. | 33.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 100 |
| Nylon, 3 denier 5/ | do. | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 100 |
| Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/ | do. | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 141.0 | 100 |
| Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/ | do. | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 100 |
| Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 5/ | do. | 112.0 | 112.0 | 112.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 116.0 | 104 |
| Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 5/ | do. | 105.0 | 105.0 | 105.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 105 |

1/ Prices represent unweighted averages for super, good, and average topmaking fleeces and better grades of skirtings, bought for combing at United Kingdom and Dominion auctions, adjusted to London cost, clean without oil, and include various charges such as brokers' buying commission, delivery charge to port of shipment, cost of exchange, sea freight, insurance, United Kingdom landing charge, and cost of delivery to United Kingdom mill. Prices reported in pence (U.K.) by New Zealand Wool Commission converted to cents at current rates of exchange. 2/ Effective parity prices as computed currently using base prices in effect and indexes for months indicated. These parity prices are the legally applicable parity prices for the following month. 3/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market. 4/ From Textile Organon. 5/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

During the first 8 months of this year, domestic mills used about one-fifth less apparel wool than during the corresponding months of last year. However, the rate of consumption has been moving upward since the beginning of this year. The August rate was only 3 percent lower than a year earlier. Seasonally adjusted, the August rate was roughly one-fourth lower than when the decline began, but almost one-third higher than it was at the low of the decline. With inventories of wool products in manufacturing and distribution channels apparently sharply reduced and a further expansion in economic activity in prospect, consumption during the remaining months of this year is likely to average above last year. Total consumption in 1959 probably will be up from this year. It appears that the decline in domestic mill use of carpet wool also may have reached bottom and that some improvement may be in prospect.

Aggregate consumption in the other 9 reporting countries dropped sharply during the third quarter of last year and continued to decline through the second quarter of this year. The drop over the 12-month period was 17 percent.

Except for temporary interruptions, the general movement of wool prices in world markets has been downward since May 1957 when wool prices were at the peak of an 18-month advance. Late in October, prices ranged from 20 to 30 percent lower than a year earlier and from 30 to 45 percent lower than when the decline began. In terms of cents per pound, clean basis, the declines ranged from 20 to 55 cents from a year earlier and from 35 to 75 cents from May 1957. The general decline in prices is largely a reflection of a weakening of world demand. When the price decline began, world stocks of the raw fiber were being reduced. Subsequently some stock accumulation may have taken place which also may have become a price-depressing factor.

Prices received by domestic growers for shorn wool reflect the decline in prices in world markets. For the first half of the current domestic marketing season, the monthly averages of prices received ranged between 36.3 and 37.7 cents per pound, grease basis, which was 14.9 to 19.8 cents below a year earlier.

The outlook for wool prices over the next few months is uncertain. However, in view of the much lower prices received to date and the current low level of prices relative to a year ago, the average of prices received by domestic producers for the entire season is expected to be considerably lower than the average of 53.7 cents of last season. The average return to the producer will, of course, be the same as last season since the incentive level is unchanged at 62 cents. But the Government payment rate needed to bring the average return up to the incentive level is expected to be considerably higher.

With larger supplies apparently in prospect, any substantial improvement in wool prices is contingent upon the extent of the expected pickup in world demand. It appears reasonable to expect some improvement in world demand when inventories of wool products in manufacturing and distribution channels abroad approach better working levels and economic activity in the other major consuming countries improves. The timing and extent of the pickup will determine whether or not prices received for wool sold during the season beginning next

April 1 average higher than this season. Domestic producers are assured an average return per pound equal to that for this season and the 3 preceding seasons since the incentive level is being continued at 62 cents. However, the return per pound to individual producers will vary, depending upon the price received in the open market. In the calculation of the Government payment for individual producers, the percentage needed to bring the average return of all producers up to the incentive level is applied to each producer's cash return from the sale of his wool in the open market.

## SURVEY OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Wool Price Decline Continues

When the 1958-59 British Dominion wool-selling season opened late in August, prices dropped 5 to 10 percent, continuing the decline which started in May 1957, when world demand began to weaken (tables 1-3). Prices were then relatively stable until late September when the decline was resumed. Late in October, prices at the British Dominion auction centers ranged from 20 to 30 percent lower than a year earlier and from 30 to 45 percent lower than when the decline began.

In general, Boston quotations for domestic wools follow major price movements abroad fairly closely. However, the relationships fluctuate somewhat. During the early stages of the decline, the ratios of Boston quotations to prices abroad were somewhat higher than the average of recent years. From about the time of the opening of the current domestic marketing season until the time of the opening of the 1958-59 British Dominion selling season, the ratios were a little lower than average. But since the 1958-59 opening abroad, the ratios have been a little higher than average.

### Growers' Prices Averaging Considerably Lower Than Last Season

During the first half of the 1958 domestic marketing season, the monthly averages of prices received by domestic growers for shorn wool fluctuated between 36.3 and 37.7 cents per pound, grease basis. They ranged between 14.9 and 19.8 cents below a year earlier and between 24.3 and 25.7 cents below the incentive level of 62 cents.

So far this season, the monthly averages have been relatively stable in contrast with last season when they trended sharply downdard after prices in the world markets began their decline.

### Wool Incentive Level Continued at 62 Cents for 1959 Marketing Year

The incentive level for shorn wool for the 1959 marketing year has been set at 62 cents per pound, grease basis, to the producer. The level for 1959 is the same as for the first four years of the incentive program. It is equivalent to 88 percent of the parity price for wool as of August 15. For

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

PART II - Supplies and Mil Activity

| Item | Unit | 1957 May | 1957 June | 1957 July | 1957 Aug. | 1958 May | 1958 June | 1958 July | 1958 Aug. | Last data available as percent of a year earlier |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Imports for consumption | 1,000 | | | | | | | | | |
| clean content | pounds | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutiable wool 2/ | do. | 6,566 | 6,263 | 5,793 | 6,326 | 5,660 | 5,203 | 4,707 | --- | 81 |
| 60's and finer | do. | 2,289 | 3,210 | 3,162 | 3,078 | 3,574 | 2,752 | 2,375 | --- | 75 |
| 56's - 60's | do. | 845 | 645 | 662 | 446 | 428 | 388 | 530 | --- | 80 |
| 50's - 56's | do. | 832 | 644 | 285 | 564 | 678 | 621 | 478 | --- | 168 |
| 44's - 50's | do. | 158 | 317 | 154 | 288 | 171 | 211 | 239 | --- | 155 |
| 40's - 44's | do. | 358 | 130 | 134 | 320 | 286 | 222 | 254 | --- | 190 |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 1,589 | 939 | 713 | 1,300 | 400 | 642 | 676 | --- | 95 |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 468 | 368 | 663 | 325 | 116 | 314 | 146 | --- | 22 |
| Duty-free wool | do. | 7,518 | 7,692 | 9,166 | 11,447 | 6,471 | 5,171 | 7,566 | --- | 83 |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 3,306 | 4,000 | 5,157 | 6,153 | 2,120 | 1,865 | 3,124 | --- | 61 |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 4,212 | 3,692 | 4,009 | 5,294 | 4,351 | 3,306 | 4,442 | --- | 111 |
| 40's - 46's | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mohair | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Accumulated since January 1 | Million | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutiable wool 2/ | pounds | 40.4 | 46.6 | 52.4 | 58.8 | 29.7 | 34.9 | 39.6 | --- | 76 |
| 60's and finer | do. | 20.7 | 23.9 | 27.1 | 30.2 | 17.6 | 20.4 | 22.8 | --- | 84 |
| 56's - 60's | do. | 4.7 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 6.4 | 2.2 | 2.6 | 3.1 | --- | 52 |
| 50's - 56's | do. | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.9 | 5.5 | 2.7 | 3.3 | 3.8 | --- | 78 |
| 44's - 50's | do. | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.6 | --- | 107 |
| 40's - 44's | do. | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.2 | --- | 81 |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 5.5 | 6.4 | 7.1 | 8.4 | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.7 | --- | 66 |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 1.9 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 3.3 | .9 | 1.2 | 1.3 | --- | 45 |
| Duty-free wool | do. | 57.0 | 64.7 | 73.9 | 85.3 | 44.2 | 49.4 | 57.0 | --- | 77 |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 23.5 | 27.5 | 32.7 | 38.8 | 15.2 | 17.0 | 20.2 | --- | 62 |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 33.5 | 37.2 | 41.2 | 46.5 | 29.0 | 32.4 | 36.8 | --- | 89 |
| 40's - 46's | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mohair | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Actual weight | 1,000 | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutiable wool | pounds | 9,061 | 8,973 | 8,263 | 8,959 | 8,331 | 7,345 | 6,619 | --- | 80 |
| Duty-free wool | do. | 10,002 | 10,328 | 11,956 | 15,098 | 8,552 | 6,800 | 9,855 | --- | 82 |
| Mohair | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Exports, clean content 3/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accumulated since January 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wool | do. | 173 | 214 | 270 | 1,077 | 5,040 | 5,045 | 5,092 | --- | 707 |
| Mohair 4/ | do. | 6,893 | 6,983 | 7,198 | 7,422 | 4,614 | 5,291 | 5,996 | --- | 83 |
| Mill consumption, scoured basis 5/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Per week, during month 6/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool (domestic and duty-paid foreign) | do. | 5,319 | 5,374 | 4,217 | 4,798 | 4,241 | 4,651 | 4,096 | 4,658 | 97 |
| 60's and finer | do. | 2,594 | 2,711 | 2,141 | 2,209 | 2,083 | 2,158 | 2,115 | 2,301 | 104 |
| 50's up to 60's | do. | 2,176 | 2,150 | 1,657 | 2,081 | 1,752 | 2,048 | 1,621 | 1,954 | 94 |
| 48's and coarser | do. | 549 | 513 | 419 | 508 | 406 | 445 | 360 | 403 | 79 |
| Carpet wool (duty-free foreign) | do. | 2,376 | 2,054 | 1,687 | 2,431 | 1,467 | 1,625 | 1,476 | 2,478 | 102 |
| Accumulated since January 1 | do. | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool (domestic and duty-paid foreign) | Million | 116.8 | 138.3 | 159.4 | 178.6 | 83.7 | 102.3 | 122.7 | 141.4 | 79 |
| 60's and finer | pounds | 59.8 | 70.6 | 81.3 | 90.2 | 42.3 | 50.9 | 61.4 | 70.7 | 78 |
| 50's up to 60's | do. | 45.3 | 54.0 | 62.3 | 70.6 | 33.2 | 41.4 | 49.5 | 57.3 | 81 |
| 48's and coarser | do. | 11.7 | 13.7 | 15.8 | 17.8 | 8.2 | 10.0 | 11.8 | 13.4 | 75 |
| Carpet wool (duty-free foreign) | do. | 64.8 | 73.0 | 81.5 | 91.2 | 42.6 | 49.1 | 56.5 | 66.4 | 73 |
| Woolen and worsted fabric production 7/ | Million | | | | | | | | | |
| Accumulated since January 1 | linear | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel fabrics | yards | | 150.6 | | | | 128.5 | | | 85 |
| Government orders | do. | | 2.8 | | | | 1.5 | | | 54 |
| Men's and boys' wear | do. | | 73.2 | | | | 57.4 | | | 78 |
| Women's and children's wear | do. | | 74.6 | | | | 69.6 | | | 93 |
| Non-apparel fabrics | do. | | 5.6 | | | | 4.8 | | | 86 |
| Blanketing | do. | | 3.8 | | | | 3.5 | | | 92 |
| Other non-apparel fabrics | do. | | 1.8 | | | | 1.3 | | | 72 |
| Total woven fabrics (except felt) | do. | | 156.2 | | | | 133.3 | | | 85 |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes carbonized wool which is not reported by grade. 3/ Includes exports of foreign animal fiber scoured or otherwise advanced in condition in the United States. 4/ Includes mohair and other wool-like specialty hair. 5/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products. 6/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks each quarter. 7/ Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool or animal fibers.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

| Item | Unit | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wool | | | | | | | | | |
| Average price received by farmers, grease basis | Cents per lb. | 62.1 | 97.1 | 54.1 | 54.9 | 53.2 | 42.8 | 44.3 | 53.7 |
| Boston, clean basis 1/ | | | | | | | | | |
| Domestic | | | | | | | | | |
| Graded territory | | | | | | | | | |
| Fine good French combing and staple | do. | 199.2 | 270.5 | 165.3 | 173.0 | 170.6 | 142.1 | 137.1 | 161.3 |
| 1/2 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 178.2 | 246.0 | 147.6 | 152.1 | 152.9 | 131.8 | 126.2 | 151.9 |
| 3/8 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 151.0 | 215.2 | 128.7 | 132.3 | 130.9 | 116.9 | 115.2 | 131.0 |
| 1/4 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 134.3 | 202.3 | 120.4 | 121.7 | 117.4 | 108.9 | 108.3 | 123.4 |
| Low 1/4 blood | do. | 116.2 | 183.7 | 103.5 | 102.7 | 104.5 | 99.8 | 101.4 | 112.9 |
| Common and braid | do. | 110.9 | 176.5 | 98.4 | 97.9 | 97.5 | 94.4 | 96.7 | 100.7 |
| Graded fleece | | | | | | | | | |
| Delaine | do. | 200.8 | 270.0 | 164.7 | 176.9 | 176.2 | 145.5 | 139.7 | 166.0 |
| 1/2 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 170.5 | 233.9 | 142.7 | 146.8 | 144.4 | 124.3 | 120.7 | 141.4 |
| 3/8 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 140.8 | 205.4 | 117.5 | 120.0 | 117.1 | 107.5 | 107.6 | 121.9 |
| 1/4 blood good French combing and staple | do. | 131.7 | 191.7 | 109.7 | 112.9 | 110.6 | 102.3 | 103.3 | 117.2 |
| Low 1/4 blood | do. | 108.0 | 174.0 | 99.1 | 105.0 | 103.7 | 97.0 | 95.9 | 110.3 |
| Common and braid | do. | 102.8 | 167.5 | 93.3 | 95.5 | 96.3 | 92.6 | 90.6 | 94.7 |
| Original bag Texas | | | | | | | | | |
| Fine 12 months good French combing and staple | do. | 198.4 | 267.5 | 166.5 | 180.8 | 177.7 | 145.0 | 143.7 | 170.6 |
| Fine 8 months (1" and over) | do. | 166.1 | 226.0 | 148.6 | 164.8 | 162.8 | 131.6 | 124.2 | 148.9 |
| Fine fall (3/4" and over) | do. | 148.7 | 193.3 | 137.0 | 149.1 | 152.7 | 121.6 | 117.0 | 135.6 |
| Imported, excluding duty | | | | | | | | | |
| Australian | | | | | | | | | |
| 64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp | do. | 205.0 | 269.0 | 155.4 | 181.5 | 177.1 | 144.6 | 143.6 | 160.8 |
| 64's, 70's good topmaking | do. | 198.7 | 259.1 | 150.0 | 176.7 | 172.1 | 139.6 | 138.6 | 155.8 |
| 64's combing | do. | 192.0 | 250.0 | 144.6 | 171.5 | 165.9 | 134.6 | 133.1 | 149.4 |
| 58's, 60's combing | do. | 168.6 | 234.2 | 133.0 | 147.4 | 144.3 | 123.2 | 127.9 | 140.8 |
| Montevideo super | | | | | | | | | |
| 0's (58's, 60's) | do. | 155.4 | 253.0 | 125.2 | 125.0 | 130.0 | 116.0 | 107.8 | 141.4 |
| 1's (56's) | do. | 136.4 | 225.4 | 111.8 | 107.2 | 119.4 | 110.0 | 103.4 | 134.6 |
| 2's (50's) | do. | 119.9 | 199.8 | 100.3 | 99.9 | 105.4 | 104.0 | 99.4 | 130.3 |
| 3's (46's, 48's) | do. | 104.2 | 167.1 | 81.9 | 89.5 | 94.5 | 94.7 | 92.0 | 97.1 |
| 4's (44's) | do. | 98.1 | 157.1 | 77.3 | 86.2 | 87.0 | 94.0 | 89.9 | 94.6 |
| 5's (40's) | do. | 97.6 | 153.2 | 76.2 | 86.2 | 87.0 | 93.1 | 89.9 | 94.6 |
| Buenos Aires | | | | | | | | | |
| 5's (40's) | do. | 105.3 | 162.6 | 76.9 | 76.6 | 80.9 | 84.0 | 83.0 | 90.9 |
| 5/6's (40/36's) | do. | 104.2 | 157.0 | 75.5 | 73.9 | 79.2 | 82.2 | 82.5 | 89.7 |
| Manmade staple fiber | | | | | | | | | |
| Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 2/ | do. | 36.1 | 40.0 | 39.7 | 35.0 | 34.0 | 33.7 | 32.0 | 30.3 |
| Acetate, 5 denier 2/ | do. | 42.5 | 48.0 | 42.4 | 35.6 | 34.0 | 35.7 | 32.0 | 32.9 |
| Nylon, 3 denier 3/ | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 151.7 | 147.9 | 125.2 | 128.0 |
| Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 3/ | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 161.1 | 157.9 | 135.5 | 141.0 |
| Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 3/ | do. | --- | --- | --- | 190.0 | 152.5 | 147.9 | 125.2 | 128.0 |
| Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 3/ | do. | --- | --- | --- | 185.0 | 140.0 | 135.3 | 112.0 | 113.0 |
| Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 3/ | do. | 125.0 | 125.0 | 127.3 | 128.0 | 128.0 | 124.2 | 105.0 | 106.2 |
| Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 3/ | do. | 83.2 | 99.3 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

1/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.
2/ From Textile Organon.
3/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies

| Item | Unit | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Production | | | | | | | | | | |
| As reported | Mil. | | | | | | | | | |
| Shorn wool | lb. | 216.9 | 228.1 | 233.3 | 232.3 | 235.8 | 234.1 | 238.6 | 235.4 | 240.4 |
| Pulled wool | do. | 32.4 | 25.9 | 33.6 | 42.2 | 43.5 | 41.6 | 40.5 | 33.6 | --- |
| Total | do. | 249.3 | 254.0 | 266.9 | 274.5 | 279.3 | 275.7 | 279.1 | 269.0 | --- |
| Approximate clean equivalent 2/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shorn wool | do. | 95.5 | 100.4 | 102.7 | 102.2 | 103.8 | 103.0 | 105.0 | 103.6 | 105.8 |
| Pulled wool | do. | 24.3 | 19.4 | 25.2 | 31.6 | 32.6 | 31.2 | 30.3 | 25.2 | --- |
| Total | do. | 119.8 | 119.8 | 127.9 | 133.8 | 136.4 | 134.2 | 135.3 | 128.8 | --- |
| Stocks, January 1, scoured basis 3/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Including foreign wool held in bond | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool | | | | | | | | | | |
| Domestic | | | | | | | | | | |
| 56's and finer | do. | --- | --- | 44.4 | 78.4 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 59.7 |
| 46's up to 56's | do. | --- | --- | 11.2 | 14.9 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 17.7 |
| Coarser than 46's | do. | --- | --- | 1.1 | 1.1 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 1.1 |
| Total domestic 4/ | do. | --- | --- | 57.2 | 94.8 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 78.5 |
| Foreign | | | | | | | | | | |
| 56's and finer | do. | --- | --- | 55.6 | 47.6 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 24.3 |
| 46's up to 56's | do. | --- | --- | 12.4 | 11.7 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 6.6 |
| Coarser than 46's | do. | --- | --- | 6.9 | 6.5 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5.2 |
| Total foreign 4/ | do. | --- | --- | 77.9 | 67.3 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 36.1 |
| Total apparel | do. | --- | --- | 135.1 | 162.1 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 114.6 |
| Carpet wool | | --- | --- | 38.4 | 42.9 | 42.3 | 30.3 | 34.4 | 33.2 | 33.7 |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | --- | --- | 173.5 | 205.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 148.3 |
| Excluding foreign wool held in bond | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 98.8 |
| Carpet wool | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 28.3 |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 127.1 |
| Imports for consumption | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clean content | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutiable wool | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60's and finer | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 56.9 | 65.3 | 52.4 | 39.7 | |
| 56's - 60's | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 14.5 | 16.9 | 15.8 | 9.0 | |
| Total finer than 56's | do. | 187.2 | 208.7 | 162.0 | 102.6 | 71.4 | 82.2 | 68.2 | 48.7 | |
| 50's - 56's | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 11.5 | 9.6 | 11.6 | 6.9 | |
| 44's - 50's | do. | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4.5 | 3.6 | 3.8 | 2.5 | |
| Total 44's - 56's | do. | 35.6 | 37.3 | 47.4 | 28.8 | 16.0 | 13.2 | 15.4 | 9.4 | |
| 40's - 44's | do. | 11.4 | 6.5 | 17.1 | 9.8 | 5.5 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 3.9 | |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 13.7 | 16.2 | 18.1 | 21.7 | 9.0 | 10.1 | 12.6 | 10.8 | |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 1.7 | 1.7 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 5.2 | |
| Total dutiable 5/ | do. | 250.1 | 272.0 | 248.4 | 165.7 | 103.9 | 112.8 | 103.8 | 78.2 | |
| Duty-free wool | | | | | | | | | | |
| Donskoi, Smyrna, etc. | do. | 115.0 | 61.6 | 75.5 | 69.1 | 55.6 | 74.7 | 64.3 | 56.5 | |
| Not finer than 40's | do. | 101.7 | 27.6 | 43.1 | 59.5 | 46.5 | 61.3 | 78.8 | 64.5 | |
| Total duty-free | do. | 216.7 | 89.2 | 118.6 | 128.6 | 102.1 | 136.0 | 143.1 | 121.0 | |
| Total free and dutiable | do. | 466.8 | 361.2 | 367.0 | 294.3 | 206.0 | 248.8 | 246.9 | 199.2 | |
| Actual weight | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dutiable wool | do. | 402.0 | 430.6 | 379.7 | 260.8 | 159.6 | 169.1 | 151.8 | 111.8 | |
| Duty-free wool | do. | 315.1 | 126.1 | 165.3 | 188.0 | 144.8 | 186.0 | 193.2 | 162.0 | |
| Total free and dutiable | do. | 717.1 | 556.7 | 545.0 | 448.8 | 304.4 | 355.1 | 345.0 | 273.8 | |
| Exports of domestic wool, clean content 6/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool | do. | 7/ | 7/ | 8/ | 1.4 | 1.0 | .1 | .2 | 1.9 | |
| Carpet wool | do. | 7/ | 7/ | 8/ | .1 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .2 | |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | 7/ | 7/ | 8/ | 1.5 | 1.2 | .3 | .3 | 2.1 | |

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Production as reported converted on basis of 44 percent yield for shorn wool and 75 percent yield for pulled wool.
3/ Includes wool held on consignment and wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers (except that held on consignment for growers).
4/ Includes a small quantity of wool for which grade is not stated.
5/ Includes a small quantity of carbonized wool for which grade is not reported.
6/ Includes exports of foreign wool scoured or otherwise advanced in condition in the United States.
7/ Not available.
8/ Less than 50,000 pounds.

Stock and import data compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part III - Mill Activity

| Item | Unit | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 1/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mill consumption 2/ | | | | | | | | |
| Annual aggregates | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool (domestic and duty-paid foreign) | Million pounds | | | | | | | |
| 60's and finer | | | | | | | | |
| Worsted system | do. | 156.2 | 118.0 | 132.6 | 98.7 | 97.6 | 107.8 | 78.6 |
| Woolen system | do. | 67.6 | 59.4 | 49.5 | 43.1 | 50.5 | 52.3 | 42.1 |
| Total 60's and finer | do. | 223.8 | 177.4 | 182.1 | 141.8 | 148.1 | 160.1 | 120.7 |
| 50's up to 60's | | | | | | | | |
| Worsted system | do. | 53.5 | 46.5 | 55.5 | 31.4 | 32.2 | 36.1 | 33.1 |
| Woolen system | do. | 71.7 | 77.7 | 73.1 | 61.3 | 69.1 | 71.1 | 63.5 |
| Total 50's up to 60's | do. | 125.2 | 124.2 | 128.6 | 92.7 | 101.3 | 107.2 | 96.6 |
| 48's and coarser | | | | | | | | |
| Worsted system | do. | 15.3 | 22.4 | 17.6 | 11.7 | 10.3 | 8.6 | 6.2 |
| Woolen system | do. | 17.8 | 22.8 | 29.7 | 23.4 | 21.5 | 20.8 | 17.9 |
| Total 48's and coarser | do. | 33.1 | 45.2 | 47.3 | 35.1 | 31.8 | 29.4 | 24.1 |
| Total apparel wool | do. | 382.1 | 346.8 | 358.0 | 269.6 | 281.2 | 296.7 | 241.4 |
| Carpet wool (duty-free foreign) | do. | 102.0 | 119.6 | 135.9 | 114.5 | 132.6 | 144.1 | 128.3 |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | 484.1 | 466.4 | 493.9 | 384.1 | 413.8 | 440.8 | 369.7 |
| Average weekly rates | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool | 1,000 pounds | 7,349 | 6,669 | 6,755 | 5,184 | 5,407 | 5,705 | 4,642 |
| Carpet wool | | 1,962 | 2,299 | 2,565 | 2,202 | 2,550 | 2,771 | 2,467 |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | 9,311 | 8,968 | 9,320 | 7,386 | 7,957 | 8,476 | 7,109 |
| Per capita | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel wool | Pounds | 2.47 | 2.21 | 2.24 | 1.66 | 1.70 | 1.76 | 1.41 |
| Carpet wool | do. | .66 | .76 | .85 | .71 | .80 | .86 | .75 |
| Total apparel and carpet | do. | 3.13 | 2.97 | 3.09 | 2.37 | 2.50 | 2.62 | 2.16 |
| Woolen and worsted fabric production 3/ | | | | | | | | |
| Woven fabric (except felt) | Million linear | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | | | | | | | | |
| Government orders | yards | 103.9 | 63.7 | 19.5 | .9 | 5.2 | 2.3 | 4.9 |
| Men's and boys' wear | do. | 105.1 | 108.7 | 130.6 | 123.2 | 141.1 | 154.7 | 128.9 |
| Women's and children's wear | do. | 107.4 | 135.6 | 140.5 | 138.3 | 151.4 | 155.6 | 145.3 |
| Total apparel fabric | do. | 316.4 | 308.0 | 290.6 | 262.4 | 297.7 | 312.6 | 279.1 |
| Non-apparel | | | | | | | | |
| Blanketing | do. | 31.4 | 24.3 | 26.7 | 12.6 | 11.8 | 8.8 | 8.2 |
| Draperies and furniture upholstery | do. | 1.9 | .7 | .7 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Transportation upholstery | do. | 23.2 | 16.5 | 16.4 | 5.1 | 4.4 | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| Other | do. | 2.5 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| Total non-apparel fabric | do. | 59.0 | 43.4 | 45.3 | 21.8 | 19.9 | 11.8 | 11.7 |
| Total woven fabric (except felt) | do. | 375.4 | 351.4 | 335.9 | 284.2 | 317.6 | 324.4 | 290.8 |
| Woven felt | Million pounds | | | | | | | |
| Papermakers | do. | 7.9 | 6.3 | 7.4 | 7.2 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 6.8 |
| Other | do. | 3.4 | 2.2 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 2.5 |
| Total woven felt | do. | 11.3 | 8.5 | 10.1 | 9.8 | 10.8 | 11.0 | 9.3 |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Consumption on the woolen and worsted systems only. Wool is considered as consumed on the woolen system when laid in mixes; consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil combed. 3/ Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool or other animal fibers.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

the first 2 years of the program, the 62-cent level was equivalent to 106 percent of parity as of the time it was established. For the 1957 marketing year it was equivalent to 101 percent of parity. For the current marketing year it is equivalent to 95 percent of parity. The decline in the percent-of-parity equivalent of the 62-cent incentive level reflects the rise in the parity price.

As under the current program, producers' returns from shorn wool sold during the year beginning April 1, 1959, will be supported by means of Government payments to producers. The shorn wool payment to the individual producer will be equal to the percentage of his cash return from shorn wool sales that will be required to raise the national average return up to 62 cents. Support for pulled wool will be effected through payments on unshorn lambs sold. Payments on both shorn wool and unshorn lambs sold during the 1959 marketing year will be made in the summer of 1960.

In announcing the incentive level of 62 cents for 1959, the Department stated:

"While the annual production of shorn wool is about 20 percent below the 300 million pound goal, production is increasing after several years of a downward trend. Estimated 1958 production is 240 million pounds, the highest since 1947, and compares with 235 million pounds produced in 1957.

"Improved range and forage conditions in 1957, after a prolonged period of severe drought in Texas and other important sheep producing areas, permitted this incentive program to operate without handicap, and for the first time under the program producers were able to increase sheep numbers in this country as a whole. Stock sheep numbers on January 1, 1958, were 3 percent larger than a year earlier and the largest since 1953. The number of ewe lambs retained for future production increased 16 percent, the largest percentage increase since 1926."

National Wool Act Extended

As originally authorized by the National Wool Act of 1954, the incentive program was to cover 4 marketing seasons--1955 through 1958. The Agricultural Act of 1958 extends the incentive program to cover 3 additional years--1959 through 1961.

The National Wool Act of 1954 limited the accumulated total of payments under the Act on any date to 70 percent of the accumulated total, as of the same date, of gross receipts from specific duties on wool and wool manufactures collected. The Agricultural Act of 1958 changes this limitation to include gross receipts from ad valorem duties collected on and after January 1, 1953, as well as specific duties. The broadening of the limitation means a substantial increase in the amount of funds which may be used. Under the amended limitation, the accumulated total through the 1957 marketing year amounted to 253.2 million dollars compared with 150.5 million dollars as of the same date under the limitation as originally imposed by the National Wool Act of 1954 (table 4 ).

Table 1.--Price per pound of combing wool, clean basis (Bradford yield), at Australian auctions, by Bradford grades, 1956 to date

| Year and month | 70's | | 64's | | 60's | | 58's | | 56's | | 50's | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Good | Average | Good | Average | Good | Average | Good | Average | Good | Average | Good | Average |
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| 1956 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 130 | 123 | 113 | 111 | 101 | 99 | 95 | 93 | 88 | 87 | 81 | 80 |
| February | 131 | 123 | 115 | 111 | 101 | 100 | 94 | 92 | 87 | 86 | 80 | 79 |
| March | 130 | 122 | 113 | 111 | 101 | 99 | 91 | 88 | 85 | 83 | 78 | 77 |
| April | 135 | 128 | 118 | 115 | 104 | 102 | 95 | 92 | 87 | 85 | 80 | 78 |
| May | 142 | 136 | 127 | 124 | 113 | 109 | 100 | 97 | 90 | 87 | 81 | 79 |
| June | 149 | 143 | 139 | 133 | 124 | 117 | 109 | 104 | 94 | 90 | 82 | 80 |
| July | 147 | 141 | 132 | 127 | 116 | 110 | 103 | 97 | 90 | 87 | 78 | 76 |
| August | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| September | 157 | 152 | 144 | 140 | 128 | 125 | 115 | 110 | 101 | 97 | 87 | 84 |
| October | 157 | 150 | 139 | 135 | 124 | 119 | 113 | 108 | 99 | 95 | 88 | 86 |
| November | 163 | 154 | 144 | 139 | 129 | 124 | 115 | 111 | 101 | 98 | 90 | 88 |
| December | 168 | 159 | 149 | 145 | 134 | 129 | 120 | 114 | 108 | 104 | 95 | 92 |
| 1957 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 165 | 158 | 149 | 145 | 135 | 130 | 121 | 116 | 110 | 106 | 97 | 94 |
| February | 169 | 163 | 155 | 151 | 141 | 138 | 130 | 124 | 117 | 113 | 102 | 99 |
| March | 167 | 160 | 152 | 148 | 139 | 135 | 128 | 122 | 116 | 112 | 102 | 99 |
| April | 166 | 160 | 155 | 151 | 145 | 140 | 133 | 126 | 119 | 116 | 105 | 102 |
| May | 171 | 165 | 162 | 157 | 152 | 146 | 139 | 133 | 126 | 122 | 111 | 108 |
| June | 172 | 164 | 159 | 150 | 147 | 138 | 132 | 124 | 122 | 113 | 104 | 101 |
| July | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| August | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| September | 155 | 145 | 140 | 134 | 131 | 126 | 123 | 118 | 114 | 110 | 103 | 100 |
| October | 146 | 138 | 132 | 127 | 123 | 118 | 116 | 111 | 109 | 103 | 96 | 93 |
| November | 135 | 129 | 125 | 119 | 116 | 111 | 110 | 104 | 105 | 98 | 93 | 89 |
| December | 122 | 118 | 114 | 109 | 106 | 102 | 102 | 96 | 95 | 89 | 84 | 80 |
| 1958 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 124 | 119 | 116 | 111 | 109 | 104 | 102 | 97 | 96 | 90 | 83 | 79 |
| February | 130 | 124 | 121 | 116 | 112 | 108 | 103 | 99 | 97 | 93 | 83 | 80 |
| March | 119 | 113 | 110 | 106 | 103 | 99 | 94 | 90 | 89 | 84 | 74 | 72 |
| April | 120 | 114 | 110 | 106 | 102 | 98 | 93 | 88 | 84 | 79 | 72 | 69 |
| May | 117 | 111 | 107 | 103 | 99 | 95 | 89 | 86 | 83 | 79 | 72 | 69 |
| June | 119 | 113 | 111 | 105 | 102 | 97 | 93 | 87 | 85 | 80 | 75 | 71 |
| July | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| August | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| September | 107 | 101 | 98 | 92 | 89 | 85 | 81 | 76 | 74 | 70 | 66 | 62 |

From Wool Statistical Service, Australian Wool Bureau. Prices converted from pence (Australian) to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 2.--Price per pound of fleece wools, clean basis (Bradford yield), at the London auctions, by Bradford grades, 1956 to date

| Week ended 1/ | Good medium fleeces | | Fine crossbred fleeces | | Crossbred fleeces | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 64's-70's | 58's-60's | 56's | 50's | 48's | 46's |
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| 1956 | | | | | | |
| January 20 | 135.7 | 111.2 | 94.8 | 90.1 | 87.8 | 87.8 |
| January 27 | 136.9 | 111.1 | 92.4 | 87.7 | 85.4 | 85.4 |
| March 2 | 138.0 | 107.6 | --- | 84.2 | 81.9 | 80.7 |
| March 15 | 138.0 | 105.2 | 92.4 | 83.0 | 80.7 | 80.7 |
| April 20 | 140.4 | 115.9 | 99.5 | 87.8 | 85.4 | 85.4 |
| April 27 | 142.6 | 115.7 | 99.4 | 87.7 | 85.3 | 85.3 |
| June 1 | 151.8 | --- | 101.6 | --- | --- | 86.4 |
| June 8 | 151.9 | 122.7 | 101.6 | 88.8 | 86.5 | 86.5 |
| July 13 | 151.4 | 128.1 | --- | 88.5 | 86.2 | 86.2 |
| July 20 | 153.7 | 128.1 | --- | 89.7 | 87.3 | 86.2 |
| September 14 | 165.8 | 139.1 | 104.3 | 97.4 | 95.1 | 92.8 |
| September 21 | 165.8 | 139.2 | --- | 97.4 | 95.1 | 92.8 |
| October 26 | 156.6 | 133.4 | 99.8 | 91.7 | 89.3 | 88.2 |
| October 31 | 156.5 | 133.3 | 99.7 | 93.9 | 91.6 | 90.4 |
| November 30 | 170.4 | 139.1 | 110.1 | 104.3 | 100.9 | 100.9 |
| December 7 | 169.3 | 135.7 | 105.5 | 97.4 | 95.1 | 93.9 |
| 1957 | | | | | | |
| January 18 | 172.5 | 138.7 | 106.0 | 97.9 | 95.6 | 95.6 |
| February 1 | 174.9 | 138.8 | 111.9 | 99.1 | 95.6 | 95.6 |
| February 22 | 174.9 | 143.4 | 121.2 | 102.6 | 96.8 | 95.6 |
| March 1 | 172.5 | 139.8 | 114.2 | 99.0 | 94.4 | 93.2 |
| March 29 | 171.9 | 141.7 | 118.5 | 103.4 | 97.6 | 97.6 |
| April 5 | 171.8 | 144.0 | 120.8 | 105.7 | 99.9 | 99.9 |
| May 17 | 178.9 | 156.8 | 127.8 | 109.2 | 102.2 | 102.2 |
| May 24 | 174.4 | 150.0 | --- | 104.6 | 97.6 | 97.6 |
| July 5 | 168.6 | 140.7 | 122.1 | 101.2 | 95.4 | 95.4 |
| July 12 | 171.8 | 146.3 | 127.7 | 102.2 | 96.4 | 96.4 |
| September 13 | 160.0 | 141.4 | 127.5 | 102.0 | 93.9 | 93.9 |
| September 20 | 161.2 | 141.5 | 129.9 | 104.4 | 96.3 | 96.3 |
| October 25 | 145.8 | 128.3 | 117.8 | 95.6 | 91.0 | 88.6 |
| November 1 | 139.8 | 128.1 | 117.6 | 89.7 | 85.0 | 82.7 |
| November 29 | 135.6 | 126.2 | 116.9 | 91.2 | 86.5 | 84.2 |
| December 6 | 127.4 | 118.0 | 113.4 | 88.8 | 85.3 | 83.0 |
| 1958 | | | | | | |
| January 17 | 127.8 | 111.3 | --- | 80.9 | 77.4 | --- |
| January 31 | 133.7 | 118.5 | 96.2 | 84.5 | 80.9 | 79.8 |
| February 21 | 134.9 | 120.8 | --- | 76.3 | 72.7 | 71.6 |
| February 28 | 130.2 | 110.2 | --- | 73.9 | 70.4 | 70.4 |
| March 21 | 130.1 | 111.4 | --- | 73.9 | 70.3 | 69.2 |
| March 28 | 130.2 | 111.5 | --- | 71.6 | 68.1 | 66.9 |
| May 16 | 125.6 | --- | --- | 68.1 | 63.4 | 63.4 |
| May 23 | 125.6 | --- | --- | 70.4 | 64.5 | 64.5 |
| July 18 | 124.9 | --- | --- | 71.2 | 64.2 | 64.2 |
| September 12 | 116.7 | --- | --- | 70.0 | 63.0 | 63.0 |
| September 19 | 112.2 | --- | --- | 67.8 | 63.1 | 63.1 |

1/ Opening and closing weeks for each series.

Compiled from Krelinger and Fernau market reports. Prices converted from pence (United Kingdom) to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 3.--Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended October 24, 1958 with comparisons

| Description | Average 1947-49 | 1957 week ended Oct. 25 | 1958 week ended Aug. 1 | 1958 week ended Oct. 24 | Percentage change week ended Oct. 24 from: Average 1947-49 | Oct. 25 1957 | Aug. 1 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Graded | | | | | | | |
| Territory and Texas | | | | | | | |
| Fine, good French combing and staple | 151.7 | 152.5 | 112.5 | 112.5 | -25.8 | -27.2 | --- |
| 1/2 blood, good French combing and staple | 137.1 | 142.5 | 107.5 | 104.0 | -24.2 | -27.0 | -3.3 |
| 3/8 blood, good French combing and staple | 109.1 | 127.5 | 95.0 | 92.5 | -15.2 | -27.5 | -2.6 |
| 1/4 blood, good French combing and staple | 100.0 | 124.0 | 92.5 | 92.0 | - 8.0 | -25.8 | - .6 |
| Low 1/4 blood | 89.9 | 117.5 | 87.5 | 87.5 | - 2.7 | -25.5 | --- |
| Common and braid | 83.5 | 101.5 | 82.5 | 82.5 | - 1.2 | -18.7 | --- |
| Fleece | | | | | | | |
| Fine, Delaine | 154.5 | 162.5 | 117.5 | 112.5 | -27.2 | -30.8 | -4.3 |
| 1/2 blood, good French combing and staple | 131.6 | 137.5 | 102.5 | 100.5 | -23.6 | -26.9 | -2.0 |
| 3/8 blood, good French combing and staple | 103.2 | 122.5 | 87.5 | 84.0 | -18.6 | -31.4 | -4.0 |
| 1/4 blood, good French combing and staple | 97.0 | 120.0 | 83.5 | 81.5 | -16.0 | -32.1 | -2.4 |
| Low 1/4 blood | 78.4 | 112.5 | 77.5 | 80.0 | + 2.0 | -28.9 | +3.2 |
| Common and braid | 73.4 | 95.0 | 77.5 | 77.5 | + 5.6 | -18.4 | --- |
| Original bag | | | | | | | |
| Fine Texas | | | | | | | |
| Good French combing and staple | 150.9 | 165.0 | 117.5 | 117.5 | -22.1 | -28.8 | --- |
| 8 months (1 inch and over) | 121.0 | 145.0 | 107.5 | 97.5 | -19.4 | -32.8 | -9.3 |
| Fall (3/4 inch and over) | 110.8 | 130.0 | 95.0 | 87.5 | -21.0 | -32.7 | -7.9 |

Compiled from market reports of Agricultural Marketing Service.

## Slightly Larger World Wool Clip in 1958-59

World wool production estimates for 1958-59 released earlier this year by both the Foreign Agricultural Service and the Commonwealth Economic Committee indicated very little, if any, change from 1957-58. More recent information, however, suggests that the clip may be a little larger than that for 1957-58.

## Larger Domestic Shorn Wool Clip This Year; May Increase Again Next Year

Production of shorn wool this year has been estimated at 240 million pounds, grease basis, 2 percent more than last year and 13 percent more than in 1949 when it was at the bottom of a sharp decline which extended over a period of 7 years.

Indications are that continued generally good range and pasture conditions, favorable lamb prices, and the incentive program will be reflected in some further increase in sheep numbers this year and in shorn wool production next year. The number of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches at the beginning of this year was 2 percent larger than a year earlier. This year's lamb crop was up about 4 percent from last year. But slaughter of sheep and lambs has been lower than last year.

The Crop Reporting Board estimate of 1958 pulled wool production will not be available until early next year. However, with sheep and lamb slaughter running lower than last year, pulled wool production probably is below last year.

## U. S. Production of Manmade Fiber Early This Year Below Last Year

The Textile Economics Bureau estimates that U. S. production of manmade fiber, excluding textile glass fiber and acetate staple, during the first half of this year amounted to 673 million pounds, 128 million pounds or 16 percent below early 1957. Production of rayon and acetate fiber, excluding acetate staple, 452 million pounds, was down 103 million pounds or 19 percent. Output of 222 million pounds of non-cellulosic fiber was 26 million pounds or 10 percent below last year. Comparable data for the rest of the world are not yet available.

World production of manmade fiber during 1957 totaled 6,339 million pounds, 7 percent more than in 1956. The United States produced 26 percent of the total last year, the same as in 1956 (table 5). Total world production last year consisted of 5,436 million pounds of rayon and acetate, 4 percent more than in 1956, and 903 million pounds of non-cellulosic, 33 percent more than in 1956. The United States accounted for 21 percent of the cellulosic, compared with 22 percent in 1956, and 57 percent of the non-cellulosic, compared with 59 percent in 1956.

If expansion plans as of early this year are realized, total world capacity for producing manmade fiber late in 1958 would be at an annual rate of 9,259 million pounds, about 9 percent larger than estimated capacity early this year and about 46 percent greater than estimated production in 1957. Capacity to produce non-cellulosic fiber would be about 39 percent above that of early this year and almost double estimated 1957 production. Cellulosic capacity would be 4 percent above early this year and about 38 percent larger than 1957 production.

U. S. mill consumption (domestic shipments plus imports for consumption) of manmade fiber, excluding textile glass fiber, last year amounted to 1,648 million pounds, up 58 million pounds or 4 percent from 1956. Use of cellulosic fiber, 1,178 million pounds, was 24 million pounds or 2 percent lower, but use of non-cellulosic fiber, 470 million pounds, was up 81 million pounds or 21 percent from 1956.

## 1957-58 Wool Exports from Southern Hemisphere Below 1956-57

For those months of the 1957-58 season for which information is available, total exports of wool from each of the 5 surplus-producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere were lower than for the same months of 1956-57 (table 6). The drop in the total for the 5 countries reflects the smaller total supply available for export and the holding back of some wool due to the decline in prices in world markets.

Smaller clips were a major factor in the declines for both Australia and the Union of South Africa. Reserve price program buying resulted in lower exports from New Zealand, where production was up, and contributed to the decline in exports from the Union of South Africa. Supplies in both Argentina and Uruguay during the 1957-58 season were larger due to bigger clips and larger carryover. However, for those months for which information is available (October 1957-June 1958 for Argentina and October 1957-July 1958 for Uruguay) exports were below the corresponding months of the 1956-57 season. Shipments from both countries were adversely affected by the decline in prices in world markets and disagreements over exchange rates. Toward the end of the season, the governments of both countries took measures designed to move the accumulated stocks. Statistics on exports following the implementation of these measures are not yet available.

## U. S. Imports of Dutiable Wool Down From Last Year

Imports of dutiable wool for consumption during the first 7 months of this year amounted to 40 million pounds, clean content, 13 million pounds or 25 percent less than last year. The lower imports reflected the reduced rate of domestic mill use of apparel wool. Quantitatively, the drop was considerably less than the drop in mill use during those months. Imports were below a year earlier each month from June 1956, about the time the decline in mill use began, through July of this year.

Table 4 .--Payments under the National Wool Act of 1954

| Marketing year | Marketings covered by payments | | | Incentive or support level | | Average price received 1/ | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Shorn wool | Unshorn lambs | Mohair | Shorn wool | Mohair | Shorn wool | Mohair |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Cents | Cents | Cents | Cents |
| 1955 | 260.2 | 981.8 | --- | 62 | 70 | 42.8 | 6/82.2 |
| 1956 | 7/254.3 | 7/1,277.1 | --- | 62 | 70 | 44.3 | 6/84.4 |
| 1957 | 7/148.8 | 7/1,136.8 | --- | 62 | 70 | 53.7 | 6/88.6 |
| 1958 | | | | 62 | 70 | | |
| 1959 | | | | 62 | 70 | | |
| 1960 | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | | | | | | | |

| Marketing year | Payments | | | | | | | 70 Percent of specific and ad valorem duties 5/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Rate | | | Amount 4/ | | | | |
| | Shorn wool 2/ | Unshorn lambs 3/ | Mohair 2/ | Shorn wool | Unshorn lambs | Mohair | Total | |
| | Percent | Cents | Percent | Million dollars | Million dollars | Million dollars | Million dollars | Million dollars |
| 1955 | 44.9 | 77 | --- | 50.0 | 7.6 | --- | 57.6 | 51.5 |
| 1956 | 40.0 | 71 | --- | 44.0 | 7.9 | --- | 51.9 | 51.6 |
| 1957 | 15.5 | 33 | --- | 8/12.0 | 8/3.3 | --- | 15.3 | 46.5 |
| 1958 | | | | | | | | |
| 1959 | | | | | | | | |
| 1960 | | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | | | | | | | | |

1/ Average price received by growers during the marketing year beginning April 1 except as noted.

2/ Percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the incentive or support level.

3/ Per hundredweight of unshorn lambs sold.

4/ Payments made after the close of the marketing year.

5/ The National Wool Act of 1954, as amended, limits the accumulated total of payments under the Act on any date to 70 percent of the accumulated total, as of the same date, of gross receipts from specific and ad valorem duties on wool and wool manufactures on and after January 1, 1953. The accumulated reserve as of April 1, 1955, was 103.6 million dollars.

6/ Average price received by growers during the calendar year.

7/ Unadjusted for weight of unshorn lambs purchased.

8/ Through August 31, 1958.

From Livestock and Dairy Division, Commodity Stabilization Service.

Table 5 .--Production and planned production capacity of manmade fiber 1/

| Item | Production | | | | Capacity as of December 1959 2/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1956 | 1957 | January-June 1957 | January-June 1958 | |
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| United States | | | | | |
| Rayon and acetate | | | | | |
| Filament yarn | 749.6 | 714.3 | 376.6 | 306.3 | 905.0 |
| Staple | | | | | |
| Rayon | 341.0 | 371.2 | 177.6 | 145.2 | 535.0 |
| Acetate | 57.3 | 53.9 | 24.5 | --- | 90.0 |
| Total staple | 398.3 | 425.1 | 202.1 | --- | 625.0 |
| Total rayon and acetate | 1,147.9 | 1,139.4 | 578.7 | --- | 1,530.0 |
| Non-cellulosic | | | | | |
| Yarn | 273.1 | 335.0 | 161.1 | 139.3 | 516.0 |
| Staple | 127.2 | 180.6 | 86.3 | 82.4 | 379.0 |
| Total | 400.3 | 515.6 | 247.4 | 221.7 | 895.0 |
| Total manmade | | | | | |
| Yarn | 1,022.7 | 1,049.3 | 537.7 | 445.6 | 1,421.0 |
| Staple | 525.5 | 605.7 | 288.4 | --- | 1,004.0 |
| Total | 1,548.2 | 1,655.0 | 826.1 | --- | 2,425.0 |
| World | | | | | |
| Rayon and acetate | | | | | |
| Filament yarn | 2,222.2 | 2,280.5 | --- | --- | 3,023.4 |
| Staple | 3,016.0 | 3,155.6 | --- | --- | 4,479.1 |
| Total | 5,238.2 | 5,436.1 | --- | --- | 7,502.5 |
| Non-cellulosic | | | | | |
| Yarn | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Staple | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total | 679.8 | 903.2 | --- | --- | 1,756.1 |
| Total manmade | | | | | |
| Yarn | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Staple | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total | 5,918.0 | 6,339.3 | --- | --- | 9,258.6 |

1/ Excludes textile glass fiber.
2/ Capacity means producing capacity, in operable condition, on an annual basis.

Compiled from Textile Organon.

Table 6.--Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 seasons through June 1/

| Exporting country | 1955-56 | 1956-57 | 1957-58 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| Australia | 1,152 | 1,300 | 1,171 |
| New Zealand | 406 | 441 | 436 |
| Union of South Africa | 261 | 252 | 218 |
| Argentina | 208 | 192 | 105 |
| Uruguay 2/ | 148 | 87 | 81 |

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa, and season beginning October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.

2/ Through July.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Table 7.--Estimated world production and consumption of wool, clean basis, 1950 to date

| Item | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 2/ | 1959 2/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. | Mil. lb. |
| Production 1/ | 2,238 | 2,330 | 2,356 | 2,551 | 2,580 | 2,632 | 2,790 | 2,941 | 2,864 | 2,865 |
| Consumption | 2,640 | 2,291 | 2,372 | 2,657 | 2,564 | 2,627 | 2,862 | 2,889 | --- | --- |

1/ Production during the season beginning during the previous calendar year.

2/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

The decline from last year varied considerably among the different grade categories: for 60's and finer it was 16 percent; for 50's up to 60's it was 37 percent; and for 48's and coarser it was 31 percent.

U. S. Imports of Duty-free
Wool Also Lower Than Last Year

U. S. imports of duty-free wool for consumption during January-July amounted to 57 million pounds, clean content, down 17 million pounds or 23 percent from last year. The quantity imported was the same as the quantity of carpet wool used during those months. However, the decline in imports from last year was somewhat less than that for consumption.

The decline for "named" wools was considerable greater than that for wools not finer than 40's. Imports of the former were down 13 million pounds or 38 percent while imports of the latter were down only 4 million pounds or 11 percent.

World Wool Consumption
This Year Down From 1957

During the first half of 1958, aggregate consumption of raw wool (apparel and carpet) in the 10 countries which report quarterly to the Commonwealth Economic Committee was 17 percent lower than during the corresponding months of 1957. For the 6-month period, consumption was the same as a year earlier in Sweden but below in each of the other 9 countries.

During the second quarter, the seasonally adjusted rate of aggregate consumption in these 10 countries was down for the fourth quarter in a row and the lowest since early 1952.

Aggregate consumption of other materials, including other animal fiber, reused and reprocessed wool, and manmade fiber, during the first half of this year by the wool textile industries of these countries was down 11 percent from a year earlier. Use of these materials was down for all of the reporting countries.

Domestic Mill Use of Apparel Wool Below
Last Year But Rate of Consumption Improving

During January-August, use of apparel wool in topmaking and in woolen spinning came to 141 million pounds, scoured basis, down 21 percent from last year. The quantity of wool used in topmaking was down 23 percent, and that used in woolen spinning was down 19 percent.

Although the total for the 8 months was considerable lower than last year, the general movement of the rate of mill use over the 8-month period was upward. At the end of last year, the seasonally adjusted rate of consumption was at the bottom of a cyclical decline which had started about mid-1956. The decline appears to have been largely a reflection of a general textile recession

associated with a working down of inventories of textile products in manufacturing and distribution channels. The decline in economic activity late last year appears to have accelerated the decline. The long-term trend to lighter-weight clothing and increasing competition from manmade fiber also contributed.

The average weekly rate of consumption during August was about 3 percent below a year earlier (table 8). Seasonally adjusted, it was roughly one-fourth lower than when the decline began, but almost one-third higher than it was at the bottom of the decline. With economic activity having recovered from the lows of last spring and a further expansion in prospect, consumption during the remaining months of this year is likely to average above a year earlier and total mill use next year is likely to be up from this year.

Data on consumption of the various fibers in topmaking and woolen spinning of yarn other than carpet suggests that apparently the manmade fibers continued to gain ground at the expense of wool this year (tables 9-11). Although as indicated above, use of apparel wool is down considerably this year, use of manmade fiber in topmaking and woolen spinning is virtually unchanged from last year. As a result, manmade fibers' share of the total quantity used in topmaking and woolen spinning increased from 19 percent during the first 8 months of last year to 22 percent during the first 8 months of this year. Raw wool's share dropped from 50 to 45 percent. The gain by the manmade fibers extends to both topmaking and woolen spinning. Their share of total fiber used in topmaking increased from 22 to 25 percent while raw wool's share dropped from 73 to 68 percent. In woolen spinning, manmade fibers' share increased from 17 to 20 percent, while wool's share dropped from 38 to 35 percent. Not all of the manmade fibers continued to gain, however. Use of manmade cellulosic fiber declined substantially, but the decline was offset by a substantial increase in use of manmade non-cellulosic fiber. The manmade non-cellulosics' share of the total quantity of manmade fiber used increased from 51 percent last year to 57 percent this year.

Mill consumption of wool was down this year for each of the three grade categories for which information is reported. The declines for these three categories were: 22 percent for 60's and finer; 19 percent for 50's up to 60's; and 25 percent for 48's and coarser. For the individual systems, the variation among the declines for these grade categories was somewhat greater, In topmaking the declines were 27 percent, 17 percent, and 29 percent, respectively; in woolen spinning they were 12 percent, 22 percent, and 23 percent, respectively.

Domestic Mill Use of Carpet Wool Above Year Earlier in August; 8-Month Total Down Sharply from 1957

Domestic woolen mills used 67 million pounds, scoured basis, of carpet wool during the first 8 months of this year. This was 27 percent less than last year. But indications are that the decline may have been halted. Consumption picked up considerably in August when it was 2 percent above a year earlier and above a year earlier for the first time since March 1957 (table 8).

Table 8 .--Average weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950 to date

| Classification | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. | 1,000 lb. |
| 1950 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 8,006 | 8,837 | 8,518 | 7,943 | 8,268 | 8,084 | 7,370 | 9,901 | 9,015 | 9,671 | 7,871 | 7,393 |
| Carpet | 3,974 | 3,977 | 3,989 | 4,208 | 4,097 | 3,725 | 2,448 | 3,989 | 3,710 | 4,223 | 3,712 | 3,638 |
| Total | 11,980 | 12,814 | 12,507 | 12,151 | 12,365 | 11,809 | 9,818 | 13,890 | 12,725 | 13,894 | 11,583 | 11,031 |
| 1951 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 8,192 | 7,496 | 7,020 | 8,754 | 8,609 | 8,541 | 6,282 | 7,320 | 6,912 | 6,360 | 6,368 | 6,300 |
| Carpet | 3,416 | 3,410 | 3,268 | 2,507 | 1,807 | 1,622 | 413 | 1,040 | 1,069 | 1,556 | 1,663 | 1,761 |
| Total | 11,608 | 10,906 | 10,288 | 11,261 | 10,416 | 10,163 | 6,695 | 8,360 | 7,981 | 7,916 | 8,031 | 8,061 |
| 1952 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 5,904 | 6,218 | 5,971 | 5,876 | 6,277 | 6,779 | 6,335 | 7,621 | 7,784 | 7,656 | 7,120 | 6,725 |
| Carpet | 2,261 | 2,513 | 2,385 | 2,265 | 2,033 | 1,403 | 1,289 | 2,305 | 2,730 | 2,648 | 2,824 | 3,029 |
| Total | 8,165 | 8,731 | 8,356 | 8,141 | 8,310 | 8,182 | 7,624 | 9,926 | 10,514 | 10,304 | 9,944 | 9,754 |
| 1953 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 7,033 | 7,599 | 7,704 | 7,472 | 8,075 | 8,034 | 6,526 | 7,649 | 7,083 | 5,986 | 4,717 | 4,118 |
| Carpet | 2,869 | 3,238 | 3,295 | 2,929 | 2,450 | 2,622 | 1,490 | 2,677 | 2,503 | 2,358 | 2,258 | 2,137 |
| Total | 9,902 | 10,837 | 10,999 | 10,401 | 10,525 | 10,656 | 8,016 | 10,326 | 9,586 | 8,344 | 6,975 | 6,255 |
| 1954 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 4,652 | 4,916 | 4,894 | 5,476 | 5,851 | 5,570 | 5,271 | 5,926 | 4,881 | 4,962 | 4,685 | 4,520 |
| Carpet | 2,514 | 2,500 | 2,389 | 2,346 | 2,093 | 1,793 | 1,370 | 2,296 | 2,300 | 2,365 | 2,274 | 2,214 |
| Total | 7,166 | 7,416 | 7,283 | 7,822 | 7,944 | 7,363 | 6,641 | 8,222 | 7,181 | 7,327 | 6,959 | 6,734 |
| 1955 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 5,279 | 5,673 | 5,390 | 5,586 | 5,751 | 5,282 | 5,046 | 5,721 | 5,066 | 5,621 | 5,570 | 5,098 |
| Carpet | 2,546 | 2,540 | 2,541 | 2,555 | 2,585 | 2,251 | 1,655 | 2,629 | 2,650 | 2,976 | 2,893 | 2,775 |
| Total | 7,825 | 8,213 | 7,931 | 8,141 | 8,336 | 7,533 | 6,701 | 8,350 | 7,716 | 8,597 | 8,463 | 7,873 |
| 1956 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 6,171 | 6,405 | 5,865 | 6,255 | 6,143 | 5,569 | 5,214 | 5,966 | 5,111 | 5,921 | 4,995 | 5,175 |
| Carpet | 3,213 | 3,362 | 2,898 | 3,037 | 2,863 | 2,363 | 1,787 | 3,044 | 2,685 | 3,206 | 2,309 | 2,682 |
| Total | 9,384 | 9,767 | 8,763 | 9,292 | 9,006 | 7,932 | 7,001 | 9,010 | 7,796 | 9,127 | 7,304 | 7,857 |
| 1957 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 5,303 | 5,576 | 5,382 | 5,034 | 5,319 | 5,374 | 4,217 | 4,798 | 4,558 | 3,635 | 3,388 | 3,222 |
| Carpet | 2,996 | 3,340 | 3,160 | 2,867 | 2,376 | 2,054 | 1,687 | 2,431 | 2,375 | 2,374 | 2,030 | 1,895 |
| Total | 8,299 | 8,916 | 8,542 | 7,901 | 7,695 | 7,428 | 5,904 | 7,229 | 6,933 | 6,009 | 5,418 | 5,117 |
| 1958 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel | 3,467 | 3,855 | 3,897 | 3,744 | 4,241 | 4,651 | 4,096 | 4,658 | | | | |
| Carpet | 2,024 | 2,166 | 2,108 | 1,521 | 1,467 | 1,625 | 1,476 | 2,478 | | | | |
| Total | 5,491 | 6,021 | 6,005 | 5,265 | 5,708 | 6,276 | 5,572 | 7,136 | | | | |

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 9.--Percentage distribution of apparel wool and other fiber consumed on the worsted system, United States, by months, 1951 to date 1/

| Fiber | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 84.7 | 86.0 | 84.4 | 88.1 | 87.8 | 87.2 | 85.4 | 86.2 | 86.9 | 84.8 | 82.5 | 83.2 | 85.8 |
| 1952 | 85.5 | 84.4 | 82.5 | 85.4 | 85.6 | 86.7 | 89.6 | 87.6 | 88.2 | 87.6 | 86.5 | 84.8 | 86.4 |
| 1953 | 86.2 | 85.3 | 89.2 | 88.7 | 89.3 | 87.9 | 91.2 | 89.9 | 90.8 | 89.2 | 86.2 | 88.6 | 88.6 |
| 1954 | 86.7 | 87.9 | 86.7 | 87.8 | 88.1 | 88.4 | 89.7 | 88.5 | 87.8 | 83.5 | 86.0 | 88.1 | 88.5 |
| 1955 | 87.4 | 88.1 | 88.4 | 86.9 | 85.1 | 86.5 | 87.8 | 86.8 | 87.4 | 88.6 | 89.9 | 88.7 | 87.6 |
| 1956 | 88.9 | 88.5 | 88.4 | 88.1 | 87.8 | 89.5 | 89.6 | 88.4 | 90.3 | 89.8 | 89.6 | 89.0 | 89.0 |
| 1957 | 89.7 | 89.2 | 86.1 | 86.9 | 86.4 | 86.8 | 88.0 | 83.8 | 84.6 | 82.5 | 85.7 | 81.8 | 86.3 |
| 1958 | 86.7 | 83.8 | 83.2 | 82.6 | 82.9 | 84.2 | 85.0 | 86.1 | | | | | |
| Manmade fiber 2/ 3/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 3.2 |
| 1952 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 2.9 |
| 1953 | 8.6 | 8.3 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 6.6 | 4.3 | 6.5 |
| 1954 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 5.8 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 6.6 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 5.4 |
| 1955 | 6.3 | 5.4 | 6.0 | 6.4 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 5.8 | 4.8 | 6.3 | 6.3 |
| 1956 | 6.5 | 6.0 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 6.1 | 5.1 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 5.8 |
| 1957 | 5.7 | 6.5 | 8.2 | 8.1 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 7.7 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 11.1 | 8.7 | 11.3 | 8.4 |
| 1958 | 8.7 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 9.8 | 7.7 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 6.4 | | | | | |
| Other fiber 2/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 10.9 | 10.1 | 11.9 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 9.8 | 11.7 | 11.6 | 10.8 | 12.9 | 15.0 | 13.5 | 11.0 |
| 1952 | 11.2 | 12.2 | 13.2 | 11.3 | 12.0 | 10.4 | 7.9 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 10.0 | 10.7 | 12.2 | 10.7 |
| 1953 | 5.2 | 6.4 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 5.6 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 4.9 |
| 1954 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 5.8 | 5.4 | 6.5 | 5.6 | 10.4 | 8.4 | 6.5 | 6.1 |
| 1955 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 5.6 | 6.7 | 8.1 | 6.8 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 6.1 |
| 1956 | 4.6 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 4.8 | 5.2 |
| 1957 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 6.1 | 5.5 | 6.4 | 5.6 | 6.9 | 5.3 |
| 1958 | 4.6 | 7.3 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 9.4 | 9.0 | 8.4 | 7.5 | | | | | |

1/ Consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil combed.
2/ Prior to January 1953, man-made fibers other than rayon and acetate were included in "other fiber."
3/ Does not include top converted from tow without combing.

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.- Percentage distribution of production of top by fiber content, United States, by months, 1956 to date

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| | | | | | | Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep | | | | | | | |
| 1956 | 77.1 | 76.1 | 76.8 | 73.4 | 71.9 | 74.9 | 73.8 | 72.3 | 77.8 | 76.0 | 76.8 | 75.2 | 75.2 |
| 1957 | 77.4 | 76.5 | 71.2 | 70.2 | 70.8 | 70.4 | 71.2 | 65.4 | 68.4 | 64.5 | 65.8 | 67.5 | 70.4 |
| 1958 | 70.5 | 66.9 | 65.7 | 64.1 | 64.8 | 65.9 | 67.6 | 67.6 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Manmade fiber 1/ | | | | | | | |
| 1956 | 19.0 | 19.4 | 18.3 | 21.9 | 23.2 | 20.7 | 21.5 | 22.7 | 18.8 | 20.7 | 19.7 | 20.9 | 20.5 |
| 1957 | 18.8 | 19.9 | 24.4 | 25.9 | 24.6 | 25.7 | 25.4 | 29.9 | 27.3 | 30.7 | 30.0 | 27.0 | 25.4 |
| 1958 | 25.8 | 26.2 | 28.1 | 30.2 | 28.1 | 27.0 | 25.7 | 26.5 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Other fiber | | | | | | | |
| 1956 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.3 |
| 1957 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 4.6 | 3.9 | 3.4 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 4.2 |
| 1958 | 3.7 | 6.9 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 7.1 | 6.7 | 5.9 | | | | | |

1/ Top combed and top converted from tow without combing.

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 11 --Percentage distribution of apparel wool and other fiber consumed for the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen system, United States, by months, 1951 to date

| Fiber | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 35.3 | 36.7 | 39.6 | 41.7 | 42.0 | 42.0 | 46.5 | 45.5 | 45.9 | 47.1 | 45.1 | 45.2 | 42.5 |
| 1952 | 43.4 | 42.2 | 42.3 | 41.6 | 42.0 | 41.2 | 41.9 | 43.4 | 42.7 | 43.8 | 44.2 | 43.8 | 42.7 |
| 1953 | 43.6 | 46.1 | 45.3 | 47.9 | 45.1 | 44.0 | 42.3 | 45.6 | 47.4 | 46.8 | 46.7 | 45.8 | 44.7 |
| 1954 | 45.4 | 42.8 | 43.4 | 43.2 | 43.2 | 42.3 | 41.0 | 41.8 | 43.6 | 43.2 | 44.0 | 42.9 | 43.0 |
| 1955 | 41.9 | 42.0 | 41.4 | 41.1 | 41.9 | 40.2 | 40.3 | 39.2 | 39.3 | 38.2 | 39.8 | 40.1 | 40.4 |
| 1956 | 39.8 | 39.1 | 40.0 | 40.4 | 38.9 | 40.2 | 39.4 | 39.0 | 38.9 | 39.1 | 40.4 | 40.5 | 39.6 |
| 1957 | 39.2 | 39.5 | 39.7 | 38.2 | 37.2 | 37.1 | 36.1 | 35.1 | 35.2 | 34.4 | 31.7 | 33.1 | 36.6 |
| 1958 | 36.4 | 35.3 | 34.1 | 34.3 | 34.6 | 35.5 | 35.2 | 33.7 | | | | | |
| Other wool, reprocessed wool, and reused wool 1/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 48.3 | 45.5 | 42.8 | 44.3 | 42.5 | 43.5 | 40.3 | 40.8 | 41.6 | 41.2 | 43.1 | 42.4 | 43.2 |
| 1952 | 43.8 | 43.6 | 42.0 | 42.6 | 42.4 | 45.7 | 46.2 | 42.6 | 43.0 | 42.2 | 41.5 | 41.9 | 43.2 |
| 1953 | 43.1 | 40.6 | 40.1 | 37.0 | 41.2 | 42.2 | 44.6 | 40.1 | 38.4 | 38.5 | 36.6 | 40.2 | 41.3 |
| 1954 | 40.6 | 41.6 | 41.0 | 41.0 | 42.5 | 44.7 | 45.5 | 42.5 | 41.1 | 41.5 | 40.4 | 43.2 | 42.2 |
| 1955 | 43.4 | 42.0 | 41.3 | 42.4 | 41.1 | 43.1 | 42.9 | 41.9 | 42.5 | 44.3 | 42.0 | 43.6 | 42.5 |
| 1956 | 43.7 | 43.2 | 42.6 | 42.0 | 42.7 | 41.0 | 42.8 | 42.1 | 41.2 | 40.9 | 38.7 | 41.3 | 41.9 |
| 1957 | 39.9 | 39.9 | 39.5 | 40.3 | 40.1 | 41.0 | 42.0 | 42.7 | 41.1 | 40.3 | 43.3 | 45.6 | 41.2 |
| 1958 | 40.4 | 42.0 | 41.9 | 41.5 | 42.2 | 42.8 | 42.1 | 41.9 | | | | | |
| Manmade fiber 2/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 7.0 | 8.3 | 7.6 | 6.1 | 7.2 | 6.6 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 6.0 |
| 1952 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 5.1 |
| 1953 | 8.7 | 8.2 | 8.9 | 9.4 | 8.6 | 8.2 | 8.1 | 8.8 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 9.6 | 7.2 | 8.5 |
| 1954 | 8.0 | 10.1 | 10.5 | 11.0 | 9.9 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 11.4 | 11.6 | 11.4 | 11.4 | 10.2 | 10.4 |
| 1955 | 11.1 | 12.6 | 13.7 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 12.9 | 13.1 | 14.5 | 14.1 | 13.0 | 13.8 | 11.8 | 13.1 |
| 1956 | 11.9 | 12.7 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 13.9 | 14.0 | 13.5 | 14.2 | 15.1 | 15.2 | 15.8 | 13.6 | 13.8 |
| 1957 | 16.0 | 15.4 | 16.0 | 16.9 | 18.2 | 17.1 | 17.0 | 17.3 | 18.9 | 20.3 | 20.4 | 17.2 | 17.5 |
| 1958 | 19.1 | 19.3 | 20.7 | 20.2 | 19.4 | 18.0 | 19.0 | 20.4 | | | | | |
| Other fiber 2/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1951 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 7.9 | 8.3 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 8.4 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 7.6 | 8.0 | 8.3 |
| 1952 | 8.5 | 9.3 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 9.4 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.0 | 9.5 | 9.4 | 9.0 |
| 1953 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 7.1 | 6.8 | 5.5 |
| 1954 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.4 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 4.4 |
| 1955 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 4.0 |
| 1956 | 4.6 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 5.1 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| 1957 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 4.6 | 4.1 | 4.7 |
| 1958 | 4.1 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 4.0 | | | | | |

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939.

2/ Prior to January 1953, manmade fibers other than rayon and acetate were included in "other fiber".

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 12.--Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption on woolen and worsted systems, United States, January-August 1949-58

| System | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Worsted | 57.7 | 67.0 | 62.1 | 53.0 | 58.2 | 54.0 | 48.7 | 50.5 | 49.2 | 47.7 |
| Woolen | 42.3 | 33.0 | 37.9 | 47.0 | 41.8 | 46.0 | 51.3 | 49.5 | 50.8 | 52.3 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 13.--Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption by grades, January-August 1949-58

| Grade | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| 60's and finer | 54.0 | 56.9 | 58.7 | 52.2 | 50.3 | 52.9 | 52.8 | 54.0 | 50.5 | 50.0 |
| 50's and up to 60's | 35.9 | 33.9 | 32.4 | 35.2 | 36.6 | 33.4 | 35.8 | 35.3 | 39.5 | 40.5 |
| 48's and coarser | 10.1 | 9.2 | 8.9 | 12.6 | 13.1 | 13.7 | 11.4 | 10.7 | 10.0 | 9.5 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14.--Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen system, United States, by months, 1950 to date

| Fiber | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 80.3 | 80.3 | 81.2 | 81.6 | 81.6 | 79.1 | 75.5 | 78.4 | 78.5 | 76.8 | 74.7 | 74.2 | 79.2 |
| 1951 | 73.9 | 71.4 | 72.5 | 63.0 | 54.6 | 52.0 | 38.7 | 56.2 | 57.4 | 65.5 | 64.5 | 69.8 | 64.6 |
| 1952 | 71.1 | 73.8 | 72.0 | 72.4 | 70.9 | 74.5 | 75.1 | 78.5 | 75.2 | 74.2 | 75.5 | 73.9 | 73.9 |
| 1953 | 73.6 | 73.4 | 73.4 | 74.9 | 73.0 | 74.0 | 74.7 | 77.7 | 75.8 | 74.3 | 75.5 | 75.3 | 74.6 |
| 1954 | 72.8 | 74.8 | 76.1 | 74.9 | 74.2 | 71.5 | 69.7 | 71.3 | 73.2 | 69.7 | 71.7 | 71.7 | 72.8 |
| 1955 | 67.3 | 67.3 | 67.1 | 68.5 | 72.6 | 68.5 | 69.2 | 70.3 | 71.9 | 70.9 | 70.8 | 73.1 | 69.8 |
| 1956 | 73.6 | 74.0 | 76.2 | 71.8 | 73.7 | 74.8 | 71.6 | 72.4 | 70.5 | 71.3 | 67.1 | 68.7 | 72.2 |
| 1957 | 72.5 | 74.3 | 72.1 | 73.0 | 69.9 | 68.5 | 70.4 | 69.0 | 69.8 | 69.4 | 66.1 | 65.8 | 70.5 |
| 1958 | 65.1 | 63.7 | 66.4 | 60.0 | 61.3 | 65.8 | 69.6 | 69.7 | | | | | |
| Other wool 1/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 4.6 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 3.4 |
| 1951 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| 1952 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 3.2 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 4.2 | 2.5 |
| 1953 | 4.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 4.3 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 4.7 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 5.7 | 5.1 |
| 1954 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 2.1 |
| 1955 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| 1956 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| 1957 | 1.0 | .9 | 1.0 | .9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.3 | .7 | .9 | .9 | 1.1 | .9 | 1.0 |
| 1958 | .9 | .7 | .9 | .9 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.0 | .7 | | | | | |
| Reused and reprocessed wool 1/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 10.8 | 9.2 | 9.7 | 9.4 | 9.2 | 10.1 | 11.5 | 8.7 | 9.8 | 9.7 | 10.2 | 8.7 | 9.7 |
| 1951 | 9.2 | 9.6 | 8.9 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 8.5 | 13.1 | 5.0 | 8.5 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 5.8 | 8.5 |
| 1952 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 4.7 | 4.8 | 5.9 | 8.4 | 10.4 | 6.2 | 5.9 | 5.6 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 6.8 |
| 1953 | 5.4 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 4.8 | 5.9 | 4.8 | 7.1 | 4.1 | 5.0 | 4.4 | 7.7 | 4.4 | 5.1 |
| 1954 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 8.3 | 6.8 | 7.4 | 9.1 | 7.9 | 8.9 | 9.1 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 8.1 | 8.0 |
| 1955 | 9.1 | 8.6 | 9.8 | 7.9 | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.9 | 6.2 | 7.7 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 7.8 |
| 1956 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 6.2 | 8.5 | 8.3 | 8.6 | 8.9 | 8.6 | 9.7 | 7.9 |
| 1957 | 9.7 | 8.1 | 9.3 | 10.2 | 8.0 | 8.5 | 10.7 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 11.2 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 9.6 |
| 1958 | 8.1 | 9.4 | 9.8 | 12.5 | 12.7 | 12.0 | 10.7 | 10.1 | | | | | |
| Man-made fiber 2/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 2.4 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 4.5 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 12.3 | 5.6 |
| 1951 | 11.7 | 13.8 | 13.4 | 22.0 | 29.4 | 31.9 | 37.1 | 31.4 | 27.7 | 21.5 | 22.3 | 17.5 | 20.8 |
| 1952 | 17.4 | 15.8 | 18.6 | 17.6 | 17.2 | 12.2 | 9.6 | 11.5 | 13.2 | 14.2 | 14.0 | 16.1 | 15.1 |
| 1953 | 15.3 | 16.0 | 15.6 | 14.0 | 15.7 | 13.7 | 12.7 | 11.9 | 13.4 | 14.5 | 10.7 | 13.5 | 14.1 |
| 1954 | 16.8 | 14.8 | 12.5 | 14.9 | 15.3 | 16.6 | 19.1 | 17.3 | 15.3 | 18.2 | 17.4 | 17.4 | 16.2 |
| 1955 | 21.4 | 21.7 | 20.6 | 20.7 | 18.5 | 22.1 | 19.5 | 20.4 | 16.6 | 17.6 | 18.0 | 15.9 | 19.3 |
| 1956 | 16.9 | 16.4 | 14.4 | 17.0 | 15.0 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 16.6 | 18.1 | 17.3 | 21.8 | 19.5 | 17.2 |
| 1957 | 15.8 | 15.0 | 16.2 | 13.7 | 17.8 | 19.1 | 16.0 | 18.2 | 18.6 | 17.4 | 21.5 | 22.0 | 17.2 |
| 1958 | 24.8 | 24.3 | 21.1 | 24.5 | 23.0 | 19.1 | 17.7 | 18.2 | | | | | |
| Other fiber 2/ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 4.4 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| 1951 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 7.4 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| 1952 | 2.0 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.7 |
| 1953 | 1.7 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 | .9 | .7 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.0 | .9 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| 1954 | .9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | .8 | .6 | .3 | .8 | .3 | 1.9 | 1.0 | .8 | .9 |
| 1955 | .8 | .8 | .8 | .9 | .8 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.5 | .9 | 1.2 |
| 1956 | .7 | .8 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| 1957 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.7 |
| 1958 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 1.3 | | | | | |

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939.
2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers."

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.- Production of woven carpets and rugs, United States, by months, 1946-58

| Year | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards |
| 1946 | 3,678 | 3,499 | 4,003 | 4,552 | 4,322 | 4,387 | 3,734 | 4,375 | 4,479 | 5,611 | 4,550 | 4,814 | 52,004 |
| 1947 | 5,142 | 4,769 | 5,340 | 6,413 | 5,802 | 6,272 | 5,084 | 5,804 | 5,929 | 7,449 | 6,279 | 6,962 | 71,245 |
| 1948 | 6,828 | 7,136 | 8,718 | 7,699 | 7,486 | 8,648 | 4,881 | 7,285 | 8,335 | 7,794 | 7,102 | 7,728 | 89,640 |
| 1949 | 7,200 | 6,890 | 8,201 | 6,443 | 5,610 | 5,421 | 2,776 | 5,329 | 6,048 | 6,092 | 6,018 | 6,696 | 72,724 |
| 1950 | 6,635 | 6,802 | 8,073 | 7,087 | 6,998 | 8,129 | 4,061 | 7,153 | 7,689 | 7,942 | 8,024 | 7,148 | 85,741 |
| 1951 | 7,544 | 7,297 | 7,286 | 6,819 | 5,411 | 4,858 | 1,849 | 3,633 | 3,615 | 4,436 | 3,976 | 3,917 | 60,641 |
| 1952 | 5,252 | 4,973 | 5,445 | 5,861 | 5,051 | 3,057 | 2,512 | 4,562 | 5,775 | 7,254 | 5,904 | 6,442 | 62,088 |
| 1953 | 6,552 | 6,589 | 7,227 | 6,929 | 5,436 | 5,388 | 3,111 | 5,017 | 5,447 | 5,867 | 4,353 | 4,921 | 66,837 |
| 1954 | 4,759 | 5,076 | 5,663 | 5,024 | 4,264 | 4,344 | 2,374 | 4,565 | 5,169 | 5,093 | 4,101 | 4,883 | 55,315 |
| 1955 | 4,894 | 4,933 | 5,914 | 5,346 | 4,684 | 5,301 | 2,742 | 4,923 | 5,608 | 5,601 | 5,063 | 5,536 | 60,545 |
| 1956 | 5,362 | 5,847 | 5,968 | 5,575 | 5,473 | 4,886 | 3,111 | 5,868 | 5,817 | 5,952 | 5,141 | 4,967 | 63,967 |
| 1957 | 5,898 | 5,478 | 5,685 | 5,595 | 5,763 | 3,831 | 3,181 | 4,461 | 4,700 | 5,058 | 3,676 | 4,031 | 56,357 |
| 1958 | 4,285 | 4,164 | 4,354 | 4,099 | 3,169 | 3,116 | 2,461 | 3,815 | | | | | |

From American Carpet Institute, Incorporated.

Total use of fiber by woolen mills in spinning carpet and rug yarn during January-August amounted to 101 million pounds, a decline of 21 percent from last year. All fibers, except manmade non-cellulosic, registered declines. Use of manmade non-cellulosic, almost 12 million pounds, was over 4 times as much as was used last year, but use of manmade cellulosic, 10 million pounds, was almost 8 million pounds below last year. The net result was an increase of about 1.0 million pounds or 5 percent in use of manmade fiber. Use of other fiber, mostly reused and reprocessed wool, dropped almost 3 million pounds or 17 percent.

The net result of all of these changes was an increase from 16 to 21 percent in manmade fibers' share of the total, with the manmade non-cellulosics increasing their share from 2 to 11 percent; a decline from 72 to 66 percent in raw wool's share; and virtually no change in the proportion accounted for by the other fibers (table 14).

The decline in use of fiber in woolen spinning of carpet and rug yarns was accompanied by a drop in production of woven carpets and rugs. The American Carpet Institute, Inc., estimates that production of such floor coverings during the first 8 months of this year totaled 29 million square yards, a drop of 24 percent from last year (table 15).

## Production of Woolen and Worsted Fabric Down From Last Year

The lower level of textile activity this year is reflected in reduced output of woolen and worsted woven fabric wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused or reprocessed wool, or other animal fiber (table 18). Production of woven felt during the first half of this year, 4.6 million pounds, was 8 percent below last year and down for the second year in a row. Output of woven fabric other than felt, 133 million linear yards, was down 15 percent from last year and also down for the second year in a row. These declines reflect the general textile recession which began during 1956. Production of cotton, noncellulosic manmade, and silk broadwoven fabric also was down this year; production of rayon and acetate broadwoven goods was up a little. The total of all of these, including woolen and worsted, was down 7 percent from 1957.

Production of all types of woolen and worsted fabric was lower than last year. Apparel fabric was down 15 percent from last year and the lowest since 1954. Output of men's and boys' clothing fabric registered a drop of 22 percent and of women's and children's apparel fabric a drop of 7 percent.

Output of non-apparel fabric continued the downward trend of the past several years with a decline of 14 percent this year. Production of blanketing was 9 percent below last year and of transportation upholstery was down 22 percent.

## Cuttings of Men's Tailored Clothing Below Last Year

Activity at the cutting level also has been lower than last year. During January-August, cuttings of all items of men's tailored clothing were below last year (table 20). The number of suits cut was down 19 percent, with 23 percent fewer

Table 16.--Production and manufacturers' shipments of tufted rugs and carpeting, United States, 1951-57

| Year | Production | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Scatter rugs, bath-mats and sets (rugs 4 ft. x 6 ft. or smaller) | Rugs and carpeting, including roll goods (rugs larger than 4 ft. x 6 ft.) | Total |
| | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards | 1,000 square yards |
| 1951 | 15,070 | 6,076 | 21,146 |
| 1952 | 19,146 | 10,420 | 29,566 |
| 1953 | | | |
| January-June | 10,587 | 6,976 | 17,563 |
| | Manufacturers' shipments | | |
| 1953 | | | |
| July-December | 12,224 | 9,309 | 21,533 |
| 1954 | 24,891 | 29,520 | 54,411 |
| 1955 | 30,477 | 47,345 | 77,822 |
| 1956 | 28,949 | 54,228 | 83,177 |
| 1957 | 31,082 | 69,093 | 100,175 |

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M 22L, Bureau of the Census.

Table 17.--Yarns consumed in the manufacture of tufted products, United States, 1951 to date

| Year | Cotton | Rayon and acetate | Wool | Other | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds | Million pounds |
| 1951 | 54.6 | 1.0 | 0.3 | | 55.9 |
| 1952 | 74.3 | 2.2 | .6 | | 77.1 |
| 1953 | 86.3 | 7.9 | .4 | | 94.6 |
| 1954 | 92.4 | 31.4 | 3.3 | | 127.1 |
| 1955 | 86.8 | 73.1 | 12.3 | | 172.2 |
| 1956 | 64.4 | 88.4 | 6.8 | 12.2 | 171.8 |
| 1957 | 64.5 | 106.4 | 14.8 | 17.6 | 203.3 |

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M 22L, Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.--Production of woolen and worsted woven goods, United States, January-June 1954-58 1/

| Fabric | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | Percentage change 1958 from 1957 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | Percent |
| Woven fabric (except felt) | 134,298 | 161,280 | 170,611 | 156,219 | 133,275 | -14.7 |
| Apparel | 121,525 | 150,293 | 164,348 | 150,632 | 128,457 | -14.7 |
| Government orders | 551 | 2,999 | 731 | 2,782 | 1,526 | -45.2 |
| Other than Government orders | 120,974 | 147,294 | 163,617 | 147,850 | 126,931 | -14.2 |
| Men's and boys' | 2/58,942 | 2/74,841 | 2/82,410 | 2/73,190 | 2/57,355 | -21.6 |
| Woolen | 24,306 | 36,753 | 35,627 | 38,815 | 28,089 | -27.6 |
| Worsted | 31,398 | 34,596 | 40,195 | 28,401 | 26,713 | -5.9 |
| Women's and children's | 2/62,032 | 2/72,453 | 2/81,207 | 2/74,660 | 2/69,576 | -6.8 |
| Woolen | 48,376 | 58,977 | 64,904 | 59,996 | 57,115 | -4.8 |
| Worsted | 8,309 | 7,342 | 8,479 | 7,425 | 5,545 | -25.3 |
| Non-apparel | 12,773 | 10,987 | 6,263 | 5,587 | 4,818 | -13.8 |
| Blanketing | 7,182 | 6,593 | 4,568 | 3,796 | 3,456 | -9.0 |
| Government orders | 3/ | 618 | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | --- |
| Other than Government orders | 3/ | 5,975 | 3/ | 3/ | 3/ | --- |
| Transportation upholstery | 3,215 | 3,066 | 1,127 | 1,071 | 833 | -22.2 |
| Other non-apparel | 2,376 | 1,328 | 568 | 720 | 529 | -26.5 |
| | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | Percent |
| Woven felt | 5,147 | 5,422 | 5,948 | 4,979 | 4,562 | -8.4 |

1/ Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool, or other animal fibers. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width. 2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available. 3/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 19.--Production of woolen and worsted woven goods, United States, 1954-57 1/

| Fabric | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | Percentage change 1957 from 1955 | Percentage change 1957 from 1956 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | 1,000 linear yards | Percent | Percent |
| Woven fabric (except felt) | 284,231 | 317,586 | 324,358 | 290,786 | -8.4 | -10.4 |
| Apparel | 262,369 | 297,744 | 312,611 | 279,116 | -6.3 | -10.7 |
| Government orders | 872 | 5,248 | 2,262 | 4,916 | -6.3 | +117.3 |
| Other than Government orders | 261,479 | 292,496 | 310,349 | 274,200 | -6.3 | -11.6 |
| Men's and boys' | 2/123,197 | 2/141,099 | 2/154,674 | 2/128,931 | -8.6 | -16.6 |
| Woolen | 53,103 | 68,264 | 70,612 | 66,103 | -3.2 | -6.4 |
| Worsted | 64,197 | 65,883 | 72,944 | 53,368 | -19.0 | -26.8 |
| Women's and children's | 2/138,300 | 2/151,397 | 2/155,675 | 2/145,269 | -4.0 | -6.7 |
| Woolen | 110,027 | 122,914 | 125,971 | 117,034 | -4.8 | -7.1 |
| Worsted | 16,156 | 15,403 | 15,629 | 13,226 | -14.1 | -15.4 |
| Non-apparel | 21,862 | 19,842 | 11,747 | 11,670 | -41.2 | -.7 |
| Blanketing | 12,584 | 11,816 | 8,850 | 8,248 | -30.2 | -6.8 |
| Government orders | 969 | 655 | 3/ | 3/ | --- | --- |
| Other than Government orders | 11,615 | 11,161 | 3/ | 3/ | --- | --- |
| Transportation upholstery | 5,147 | 4,370 | 2,034 | 2,329 | -46.7 | +14.5 |
| Other non-apparel | 4,131 | 3,656 | 863 | 1,093 | -70.1 | +26.6 |
| | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | 1,000 pounds | Percent | Percent |
| Woven felt | 9,849 | 10,753 | 10,979 | 9,315 | -13.4 | -15.2 |

1/ Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool reused wool, reprocessed wool or other animal fibers. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width.
2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available.
3/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 20.--Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing, United States, January-August 1956-58

| Type of garment | Number of garments cut | | | Percentage change in average weekly rate | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1956 (34 weeks) | 1957 (35 weeks) | 1958 (35 weeks) | 1958 from 1956 | 1958 from 1957 |
| | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Percent | Percent |
| Suits, total | 13,740 | 14,164 | 11,498 | -18.7 | -18.8 |
| Regular-weight | 9,805 | 10,413 | 8,009 | -20.7 | -23.1 |
| Summer-weight | 3,935 | 3,751 | 3,489 | -13.8 | -7.0 |
| 50 percent or more wool | 1,461 | 1,531 | 1,374 | -8.6 | -10.1 |
| Man-made fibers | 2,286 | 2,006 | 1,999 | -15.0 | -.4 |
| Other | 188 | 214 | 116 | -40.0 | -45.9 |
| Separate dress and sport trousers | 50,868 | 42,780 | 39,879 | -23.8 | -6.8 |
| 50 percent or more wool | 12,480 | 14,880 | 8,935 | -30.5 | -40.0 |
| Other | 38,388 | 27,900 | 30,944 | -21.7 | +10.9 |
| Dress and sport coats | --- | --- | 5,505 | --- | --- |
| Overcoats and topcoats | 4,169 | 2,687 | 2,576 | -40.0 | -4.2 |

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 21.--Percentage distribution of cuttings of men's tailored clothing by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1956-58

| Type of garment | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Summer-weight suits | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 50 percent or more wool | 37.1 | 40.8 | 39.4 |
| Man-made fibers | 58.1 | 53.5 | 57.3 |
| Other | 4.8 | 5.7 | 3.3 |
| Separate dress and sport trousers | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 50 percent or more wool | 24.5 | 34.8 | 22.4 |
| Other | 75.5 | 65.2 | 77.6 |

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 22.--Cuttings of specified items of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1956-58

| Type of garment | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | Percentage change 1958 from 1957 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Thousands | Thousands | Thousands | Percent |
| Dresses (unit-priced) | 109,650 | 108,549 | 100,679 | -7.3 |
| Rayon and acetate | 49,609 | 54,450 | 50,667 | -7.0 |
| Other | 60,041 | 54,099 | 50,012 | -7.6 |
| Skirts | 59,040 | 64,644 | 63,588 | -1.6 |
| Rayon and acetate | 10,248 | 11,568 | 9,756 | -15.7 |
| Other | 48,792 | 53,076 | 53,832 | +1.4 |
| Suits | 8,622 | 7,747 | 7,256 | -6.3 |
| Rayon and acetate | 3,629 | 2,933 | 1,961 | -33.2 |
| Other | 4,993 | 4,814 | 5,295 | +10.0 |
| Coats | 15,840 | 16,785 | 16,127 | -3.9 |
| Blouses | 109,512 | 116,124 | 116,148 | --- |
| Cotton | 78,252 | 76,908 | 86,136 | +12.0 |
| Other | 31,260 | 39,216 | 30,012 | -23.5 |

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M23H, Bureau of the Census.

Table 23.--Percentage distribution of cuttings of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1956-58

| Type of garment | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Dresses (unit-priced) | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Rayon and acetate | 45.2 | 50.2 | 50.3 |
| Other | 54.8 | 49.8 | 49.7 |
| Skirts | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Rayon and acetate | 17.4 | 17.9 | 15.3 |
| Other | 82.6 | 82.1 | 84.7 |
| Suits | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Rayon and acetate | 42.1 | 37.9 | 27.0 |
| Other | 57.9 | 62.1 | 73.0 |
| Blouses | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Cotton | 71.5 | 66.2 | 74.2 |
| Other | 28.5 | 33.8 | 25.8 |

Derived from Facts for Industry Series M23H, Bureau of the Census

regular-weight suits and 7 percent fewer summer-weight suits. Cuttings of both separate dress and sport trousers were 7 percent lower and of overcoats and topcoats down 4 percent.

Production of Most Women's, Misses', and Juniors' Outerwear Also Lower Than Last Year

During January-August, manufacturers of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear produced 7 percent fewer unit-priced dresses, 2 percent fewer skirts, 6 percent fewer suits, and 4 percent fewer coats (table 22). Their output of blouses was about the same as last year.

## THE MOHAIR SITUATION

Mohair prices this year have been substantially lower than last year, apparently due largely to an easing of world demand. Prices in Texas began to move slowly downward late in May 1957, about the time wool prices began to slide. The decline continued at an accelerated rate from the third quarter of last year, when world woolen and worsted textile activity began to decline sharply, until early May of this year. Prices advanced somewhat during May, and although they have fluctuated somewhat, there was no noticeable trend until late October when they advanced a little.

During the first 6 months (April-September) of the current domestic marketing season, the monthly averages of prices received by Texas growers ranged between 55 and 70 cents per pound, grease basis. Monthly data are not available for 1957; however, the 1957 seasonal average of prices received in Texas was 89 cents. The 7-State average was 88.6 cents.

Prices at local shipping points for this year's Texas spring clip ranged between 46.5 and 76.5 cents for adult hair and between 76.5 and 101.5 cents for kid hair. Prices for the 1957 spring clip ranged between a low of 81.5 and a high of 106.5 cents for adult and between 101.5 and 136.5 cents for kid hair. Up to late October, prices for this year's fall clip ranged between 61.5 and 76.5 cents for adult and between 91.5 and 106.5 cents for kid hair. Up to the same time last year, prices for 1957 fall hair had ranged between 80.0 and 96.5 cents for adult and between 111.5 and 126.5 cents for kid hair.

The National Wool Act provides support for mohair as well as for wool. As for wool, support is effected through Government payments to producers. Mohair payments were not made for the first three years covered by the Act because the averages of prices received by producers were above the support price. But payments may be required for 1958 marketings. If so, each producer would receive a sum equal to the percentage needed to bring the average price received by all producers for mohair sold during the marketing year up to the support price of 70 cents applied to the net proceeds from the sale of his mohair.

The support price is being continued at 70 cents to the producer for mohair sold next season (April 1, 1959-March 31, 1960), the fifth year under the payments program. The 70-cent support price is equivalent to 76 percent of the September 15, 1958, parity price for mohair. This is near the minimum percent of parity permissible for mohair when wool is supported at 88 percent of parity. The National Wool Act of 1954 provides that "the deviation of mohair support prices shall not be calculated so as to cause it to rise or fall more than 15 percent above or below the comparable percentage of parity at which shorn wool is supported."

Table 24.--United States exports of mohair and other wool-like specialty hair, clean content, by country of destination, 1952 to date

| Country of destination | 1952 | | 1953 | | 1954 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 pounds | Percent | 1,000 pounds | Percent | 1,000 pounds | Percent |
| United Kingdom | 6 | 24 | 170 | 19 | 1,017 | 40 |
| Netherlands | --- | --- | 268 | 30 | 1,053 | 42 |
| Belgium | --- | --- | 257 | 29 | 254 | 10 |
| Japan | 1 | 2 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Other | 17 | 74 | 188 | 22 | 212 | 8 |
| Total | 24 | 100 | 883 | 100 | 2,536 | 100 |

| | 1955 | | 1956 | | 1957 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000 pounds | Percent | 1,000 pounds | Percent | 1,000 pounds | Percent |
| United Kingdom | 3,866 | 64 | 7,795 | 66 | 6,017 | 60 |
| Netherlands | 1,765 | 29 | 2,482 | 21 | 1,804 | 18 |
| Belgium | 227 | 4 | 952 | 8 | 1,432 | 14 |
| Japan | 9 | 1/ | 217 | 2 | 402 | 4 |
| Other | 186 | 3 | 389 | 3 | 337 | 4 |
| Total | 6,053 | 100 | 11,835 | 100 | 9,992 | 100 |

1/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Stocks of mohair held by dealers and manufacturers, including mohair held on consignment, in the United States on January 1 amounted to 5.7 million pounds, scoured basis. Data are not available for a year earlier, but stocks on April 1, 1957, amounted to 5.0 million pounds. Reportedly, a sizeable portion of the 1957 clip was not sold during the 1957 marketing year but was carried over into the current season.

The Crop Reporting Board estimate of domestic production this year will not be available until early 1959. But the fact that the number of goats in Texas at the beginning of this year was 2 percent larger than a year earlier suggests that this year's clip may be a little larger than the 19.1 million pounds, grease basis, of 1957. Texas accounted for 97 percent of the mohair produced last year. An increase this year would be the sixth in succession. But the rate of increase has declined sharply over the last 3 years. With slaughter of goats this year running about double that of last year, mohair production next year may not be much different from this year.

Production in Turkey this year is estimated at 17.2 million pounds, grease basis, down about 5 percent from 1957. The latest information on production in the Union of South Africa is for the 1955-56 season, when 7.9 million pounds were produced.

The United States imported no mohair last year and during the first 6 months of this year. In years past, however, imports have at times been quite substantial.

Bureau of the Census statistics do not tell precisely how much mohair is exported from the United States since in the export statistics mohair is grouped with other wool-like specialty hair. Bureau of the Census information indicates, though, that the United States has been a net exporter since 1953. Exports of mohair and other wool-like specialty hair during 1957 amounted to 10.0 million pounds, clean content, down 16 percent from the record high of 1956. The total for the first 4 months of 1957, 6.3 million pounds, was almost double that of a year earlier; the total for the remaining months was considerably lower than a year earlier. The total for 1957 was equivalent to almost two-thirds of that year's clip; 1956 exports were equivalent to almost four-fifths of the 1956 clip. The United Kingdom continued as the major destination, accounting for about 60 percent of the total (table 24). Exports are down again this year, due largely to the textile recession in the United Kingdom. During the first 6 months they were almost one-fourth lower than during the corresponding months of 1957.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MOHAIR

| Item | | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | SUPPLIES AND CONSUMPTION | | | | | |
| Domestic production 1/ | 1,000 pounds | | | | | | | | | |
| As reported | | 13,245 | 12,892 | 12,215 | 12,757 | 14,578 | 16,923 | 18,233 | 19,072 | |
| Approximate scoured equivalent 2/ | do. | 10.9 | 10.6 | 10.0 | 10.5 | 12.0 | 13.9 | 15.0 | 15.6 | |
| Reported stocks, scoured basis, January 1 3/ | do. | --- | --- | 4,128 | 4,357 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 5,701 |
| Imports for consumption, clean content 4/ | do. | 1,602 | 2,230 | 1,433 | 210 | 88 | 13 | 3 | --- | |
| Exports 5/ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Actual weight | do. | 113 | 41 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| Clean content | do. | --- | --- | 24 | 883 | 2,536 | 6,053 | 11,835 | 9,992 | |
| Mill consumption, scoured basis | do. | 17,188 | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | |
| Worsted system | do. | 12,824 | 8,785 | 7,933 | 5,544 | 5,041 | 4,443 | 2,743 | 2,114 | |
| Woolen system | do. | 4,364 | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | 6/ | |
| | | | | | PRICES | | | | | |
| Average price received by farmers, grease basis 7/ | Cents per pound | 76.0 | 118.0 | 96.3 | 87.7 | 72.4 | 82.2 | 84.4 | 88.6 | |
| Boston market prices for Texas mohair, grease basis: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Graded | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 1 Kid (Bulk 36's) | do. | 134.3 | 228.8 | 166.4 | 181.1 | 212.6 | 208.3 | 162.4 | 184.4 | |
| No. 2 Kid (Bulk 32's) | do. | 122.8 | 208.2 | 156.9 | 167.8 | 191.6 | 182.3 | 148.7 | 164.3 | |
| No. 1 Grown (Bulk 28's) | do. | 96.9 | 176.4 | 143.8 | 146.9 | 137.5 | 117.9 | 112.8 | 124.3 | |
| No. 2 Grown (Bulk 24's) | do. | 85.8 | 157.5 | 122.2 | 122.7 | 92.5 | 81.0 | 91.6 | 104.7 | |
| No. 3 Grown (Bulk 20's) | do. | 77.9 | 141.0 | 99.0 | 84.6 | 77.5 | 75.3 | 81.9 | 94.5 | |
| No. 4 Grown (Bulk 18's) | do. | 72.3 | 133.0 | 89.9 | 78.2 | 67.5 | 70.2 | 75.6 | 85.2 | |
| Sorted | | | | | | | | | | |
| 40's | do. | 167.3 | 257.8 | 201.8 | 230.3 | 241.0 | 225.4 | 211.0 | 220.8 | |
| 36's | do. | 150.4 | 242.0 | 186.5 | 213.5 | 226.0 | 200.6 | 180.2 | 192.5 | |
| 32's | do. | 126.5 | 220.0 | 173.9 | 190.9 | 205.6 | 175.8 | 154.6 | 162.8 | |
| 30's | do. | 111.4 | 202.2 | 156.7 | 165.2 | 152.5 | 123.1 | 127.0 | 150.2 | |
| 26's | do. | 96.6 | 172.1 | 135.6 | 134.8 | 102.5 | 92.2 | 105.0 | 127.7 | |
| 22's | do. | 87.1 | 152.5 | 109.4 | 98.4 | 82.5 | 82.1 | 96.3 | 108.1 | |
| 18's | do. | 79.5 | 144.0 | 99.4 | 88.2 | 72.5 | 76.2 | 91.4 | 101.4 | |

1/ Production in 7 leading States (Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah).

2/ Production as reported converted on basis of 82 percent yield, the yield factor adopted by the Bureau of the Census to convert stocks reported greasy to a scoured basis.

3/ Includes mohair held on consignment, foreign mohair held in bond, and mohair in process of manufacture up to the carding operation but excludes mohair held for the account of or by growers.

4/ Includes only mohair not advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond washed, scoured, or carbonized condition.

5/ Includes mohair and other wool-like specialty hair.

6/ Not available. Bureau of the Census reports show only combined figure for mohair, alpaca, vicuna, etc., on woolen system.

7/ Weighted average.

Data on stocks, imports, exports, and consumption compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census; Boston market prices compiled from Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market (USDA).

## TRENDS IN WOOL CONSUMPTION *

The general trend of world consumption of wool during the postwar period has been upward, with a downward trend in the U. S. more than offset by an upward trend abroad (fig. 1). World mill use during the last 3 years averaged about 38 percent higher than just before World War II. The increase for cotton was roughly 31 percent. However, although these increases are substantial, they are considerably less, percentagewise, than that for use of manmade fiber. Use of these fibers was about $4\frac{1}{4}$ times that of prewar, a rise of about 325 percent. Total use of the 3 fibers was up about 55 percent. For all 3 the increases in the total quantity used were larger, percentagewise, than the increase in world population.

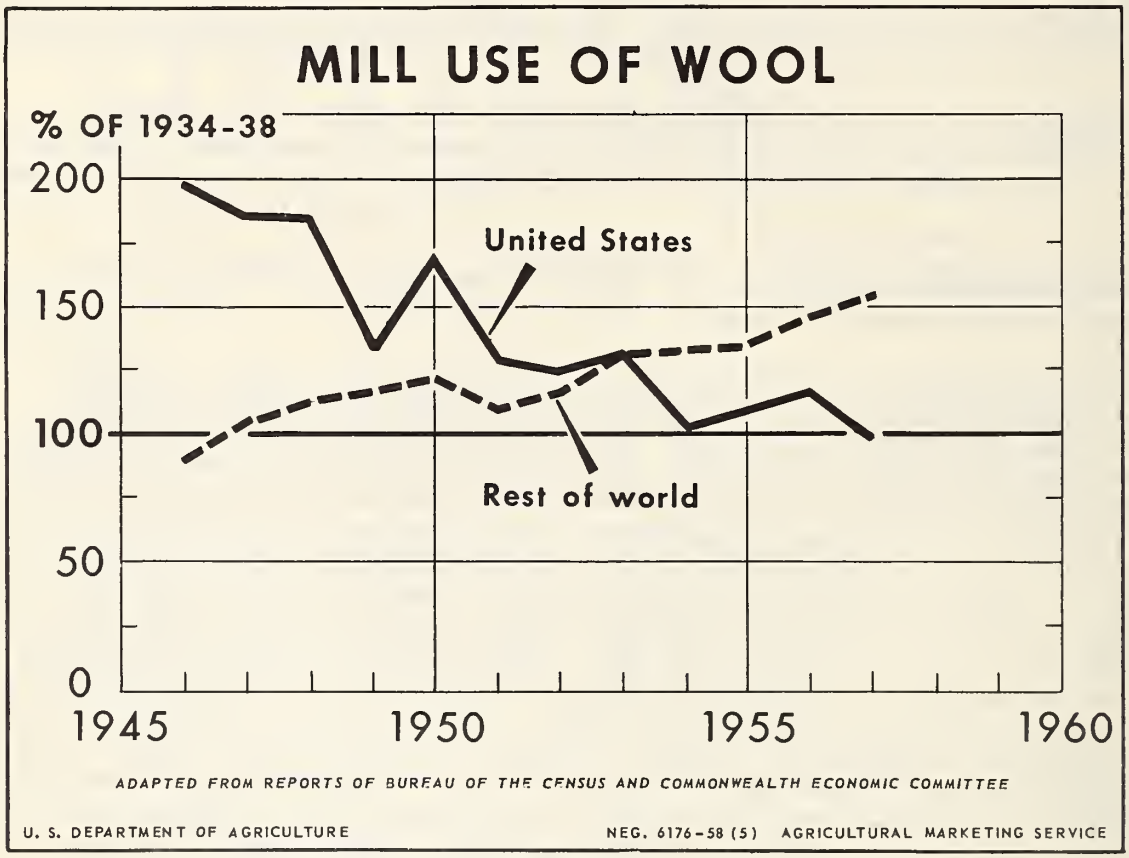


Figure 1

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* The material contained in this article is taken from an address given by Albert M. Hermie, Agricultural Economics Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, at the Regional Conference on Wool Preparation and Marketing, Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana, June 4, 1958.

On a pound-for-pound basis, wool's share of total fiber consumption in 1934-38 was 11.6 percent; in 1955-57 it was down to 10.2 percent. However, due to differences in processing losses, in covering power, and in wear-life, textile inter-fiber competition is not on a simple pound-for-pound basis. On a utility poundage basis, the decline in wool's share and in cotton's share of the total would be greater than indicated.

World per-capita use of wool increased somewhat right after the war, when, in addition to current production, the surplus which accumulated during the war was used (fig. 2). It then declined a little, as supplies fell while population continued to increase, but in recent years it has moved upward as production gained somewhat on population. Per-capita use of manmade fiber has trended continuously upward. Per-capita mill consumption of cotton during the early postwar period was lower than prewar, but it has trended continuously upward since 1946-48. During 1955-57, per-capita mill use of wool was 7 percent above prewar. The increase for cotton was 2 percent. For manmade fiber, it was 235 percent. The total for the 3 was up 21 percent.

Figure 6 indicates that during the immediate postwar years per-capita mill use of all fibers outside the United States was lower than prewar, due largely to the aftermath of the war--shortages of foreign exchange in some countries, labor shortages, etc. But the trend has been upward since then. In 1955-57, per-capita use of wool was up 10 percent from prewar; use of manmade fiber increased 200 percent; and use of cotton was about the same as prewar. However, wool's share of the total declined from 12 percent prewar to 11.5 percent for the last 3 years.

It should be noted that this chart (fig. 3) relates to mill consumption and not to total supplies available for home use; i.e., mill consumption adjusted for the difference between imports and exports of manufactures. Since the United States is normally a net importer of wool manufactures, the figures for the rest of the world, on an available-for-home-use basis, for all periods except 1946-48 would be lower than the mill consumption figures shown here. The available-for-home-use figures for 1946-48 would be a little higher than indicated, since the United States was a net exporter of wool manufactures during that period. Similarly, since the United States is a net exporter of manufactures of cotton and manmade fiber, supplies of those fibers available for home use outside the United States would be larger than the mill use figures shown here. For the same reason, supplies available for home use in the United States would differ from the mill consumption data shown in figure 4. The adjustments would be the opposite of those indicated above for the rest of the world.

In the United States, aggregate average annual mill use of these 3 fibers during 1955-57 was about 59 percent greater than during 1935-39. Cotton was up about 30 percent; manmade fiber use was up 425 percent; use of wool was up 9 percent, with use of carpet wool up 41 percent and use of apparel wool down 3 percent.

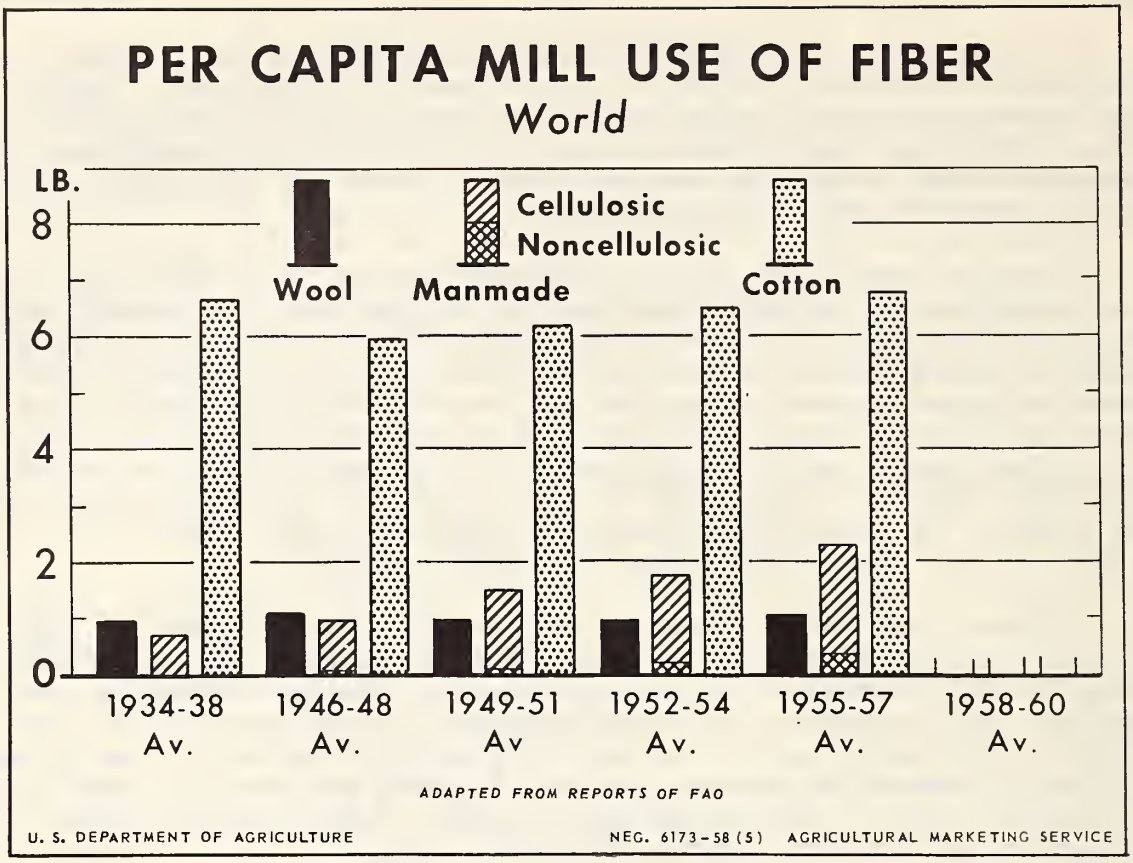

PER CAPITA MILL USE OF FIBER
World
LB.
8
6
4
2
0
Wool
Manmade
Cellulosic
Noncellulosic
Cotton
1934-38 Av.
1946-48 Av.
1949-51 Av
1952-54 Av.
1955-57 Av.
1958-60 Av.
ADAPTED FROM REPORTS OF FAO
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 6173-58 (5) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Figure 2

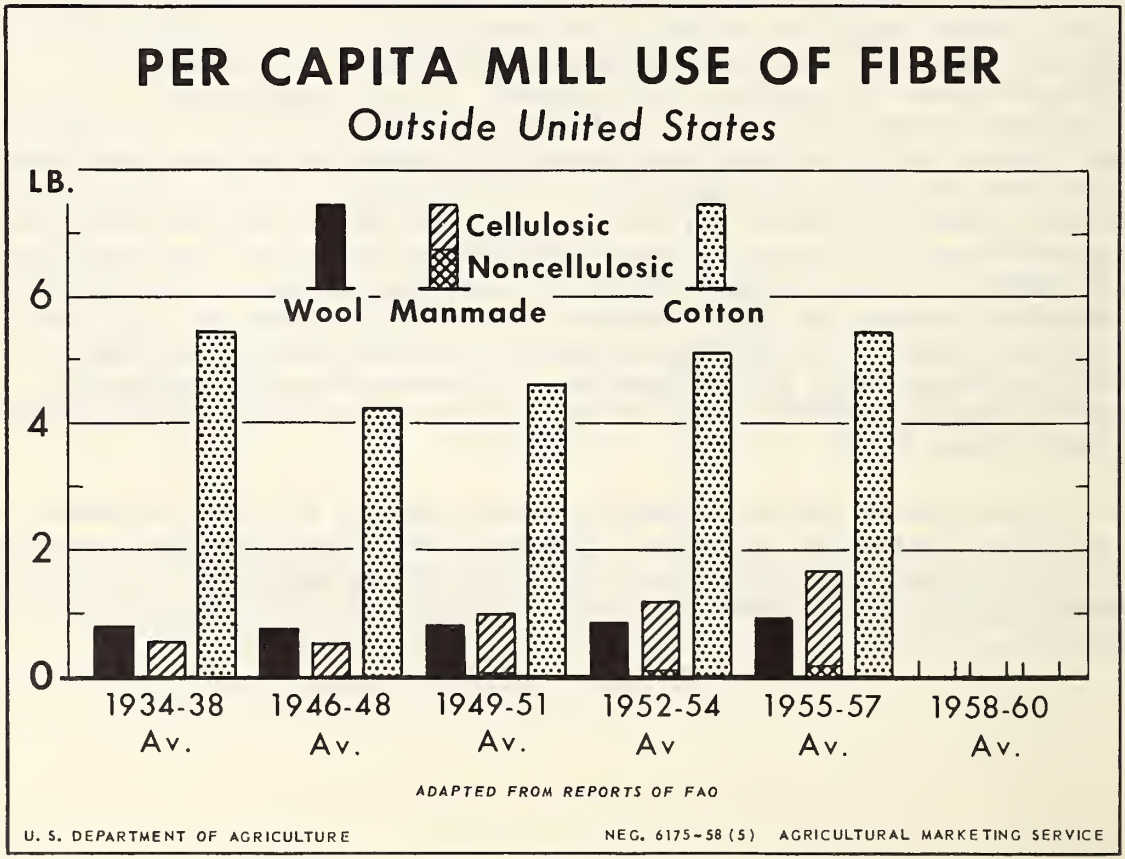

PER CAPITA MILL USE OF FIBER
Outside United States
LB.
6
4
2
0
Wool
Manmade
Cellulosic
Noncellulosic
Cotton
1934-38 Av.
1946-48 Av.
1949-51 Av.
1952-54 Av
1955-57 Av.
1958-60 Av.
ADAPTED FROM REPORTS OF FAO
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 6175-58 (5) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Figure 4 shows the trends in per-capita mill use of the various fibers in the United States. During the last 3 years, average annual per-capita mill use of these fibers was 24 percent above 1935-39. Use of cotton was about the same as in 1935-39. Use of wool was down 17 percent. In sharp contrast with the situation as regards the natural fibers is an increase of over 300 percent in per-capita use of manmade fiber. Apparently a large part of this gain has been at the expense of the natural fibers, particularly apparel wool.

Figure 4 also indicates that, during the immediate postwar years, per-capita mill use of all of these fibers was considerably higher than during the prewar period. The 3-year averages indicate that use of the manmade fibers has continued to increase, but the trend of per-capita use of both wool and cotton has been downward since the immediate postwar years.

Figure 5 relates to per-capita mill use of apparel and carpet wool in the United States. It shows that use of apparel wool, which was at a peak in 1946, has trended sharply downward since then. The early postwar upswing for carpet wool was more gradual, with the result that carpet wool consumption did not reach a peak until 1948. Per-capita use then dropped off sharply through 1951. But there has been no noticeable upward or downward trend since 1951. This figure also indicates that during the last 3 years, per-capita use of apparel wool was 25 percent below prewar.

Figure 6 shows the results of attempts to isolate changes in mill use of apparel wool for civilian items from total mill use. In 2 years, 1951 and 1952, military procurement accounted for a sufficiently large proportion of the apparel wool used to alter materially the pattern for that period. However, the general trend of use for civilian goods during the postwar period has been the same as for the total--downward.

Why has mill use of apparel wool, both per capita and total, in the United States declined so sharply during the postwar period when the general trend of economic activity and consumer purchasing power has been upward?

Apparently, it is the net effect of a group of factors, some of which are interrelated. Competition from manmade fiber already has been mentioned. Data on end-use fiber consumption gives some indication of the extent of the competition. Table 1a indicates the major wool-using items and indicates the relative importance of each as an outlet for wool in 1955. For example, men's and boys' suits accounted for 12 percent of the wool used in items other than carpets and rugs that year. Table 2a shows, for each major wool-using category of men's and boys' clothing, the proportion of total fiber use accounted for by the various fibers in 1949 and in 1955. Wool's share has declined for all categories. A similar fiber breakdown for women's and children's outerwear is shown in table 3a. As for men's wear, wool's share of the total dropped for all items. Table 4a shows similar data for blanketing, apparel lining, apparel piece goods, and industrial uses.

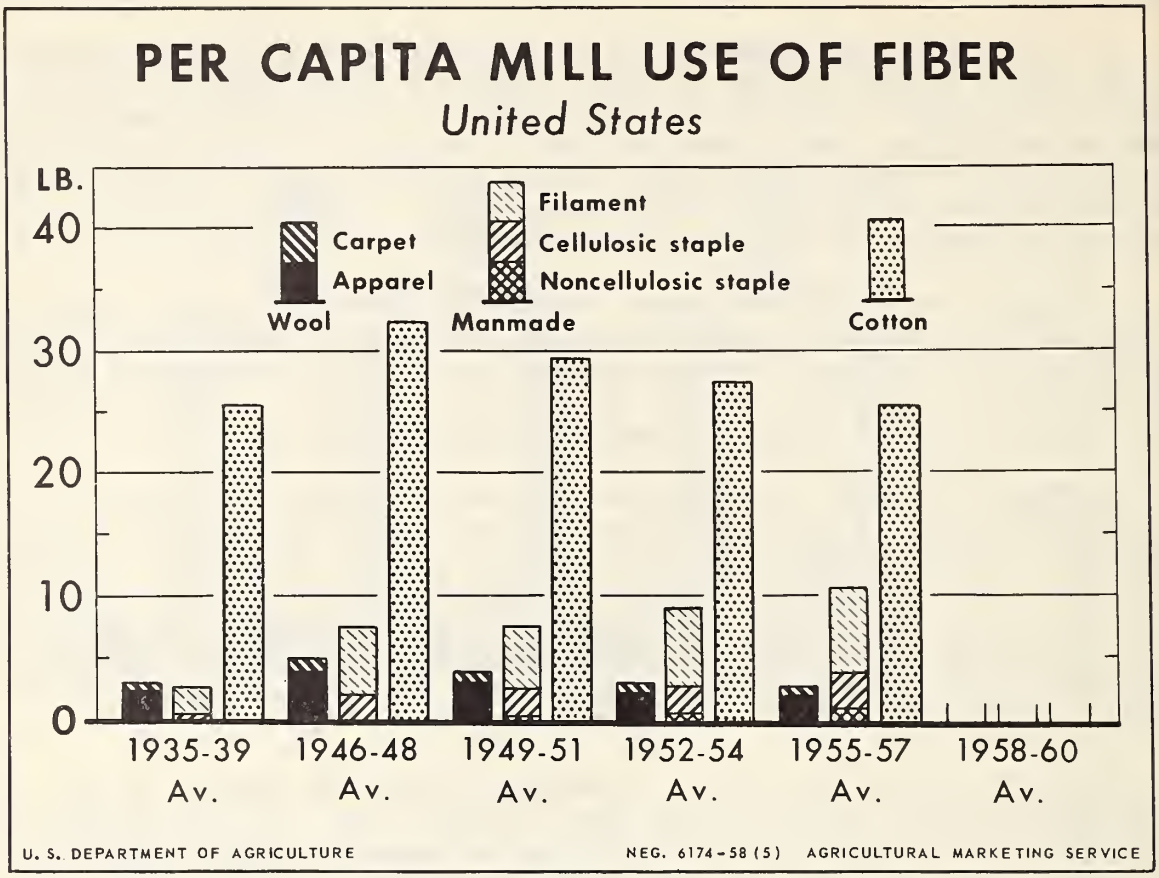
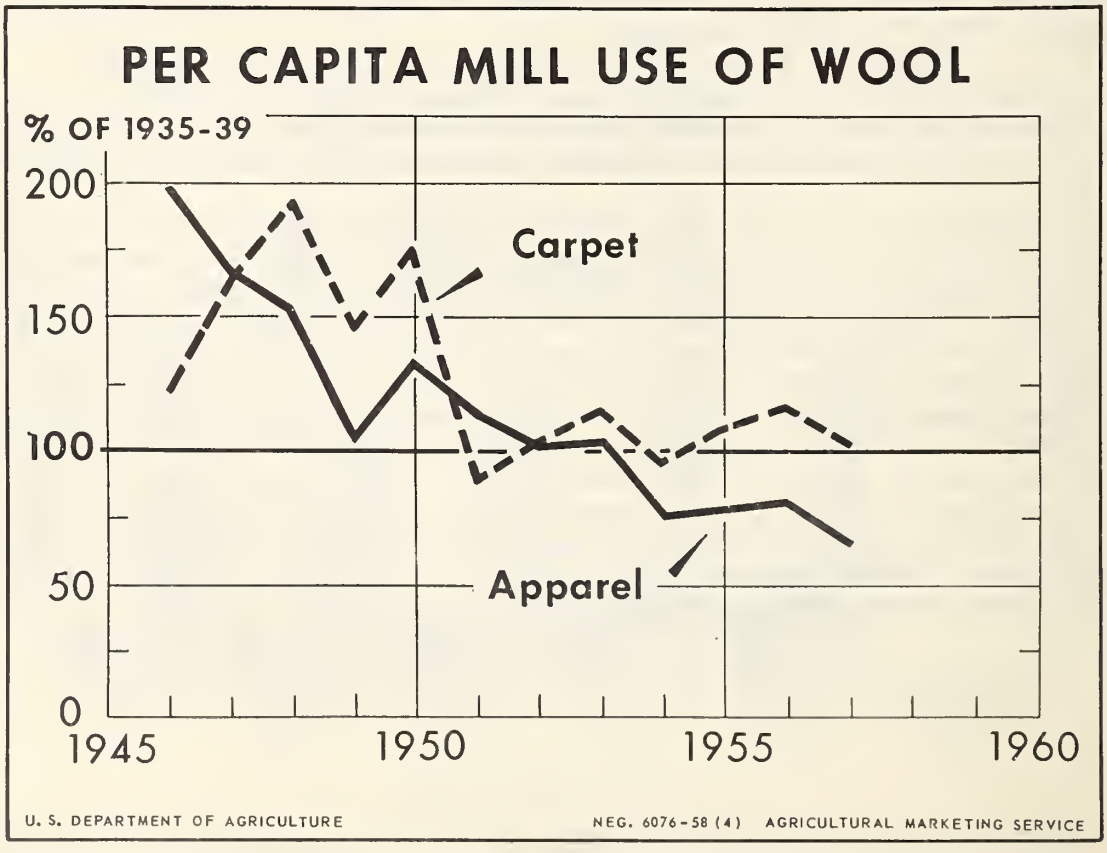

PER CAPITA MILL USE OF FIBER
United States
LB.
40
30
20
10
0
Carpet
Apparel
Wool
Filament
Cellulosic staple
Noncellulosic staple
Manmade
Cotton
1935-39 Av.
1946-48 Av.
1949-51 Av.
1952-54 Av.
1955-57 Av.
1958-60 Av.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 6174-58 (5) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Figure 4


PER CAPITA MILL USE OF WOOL
% OF 1935-39
200
150
100
50
0
Carpet
Apparel
1945
1950
1955
1960
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 6076-58 (4) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

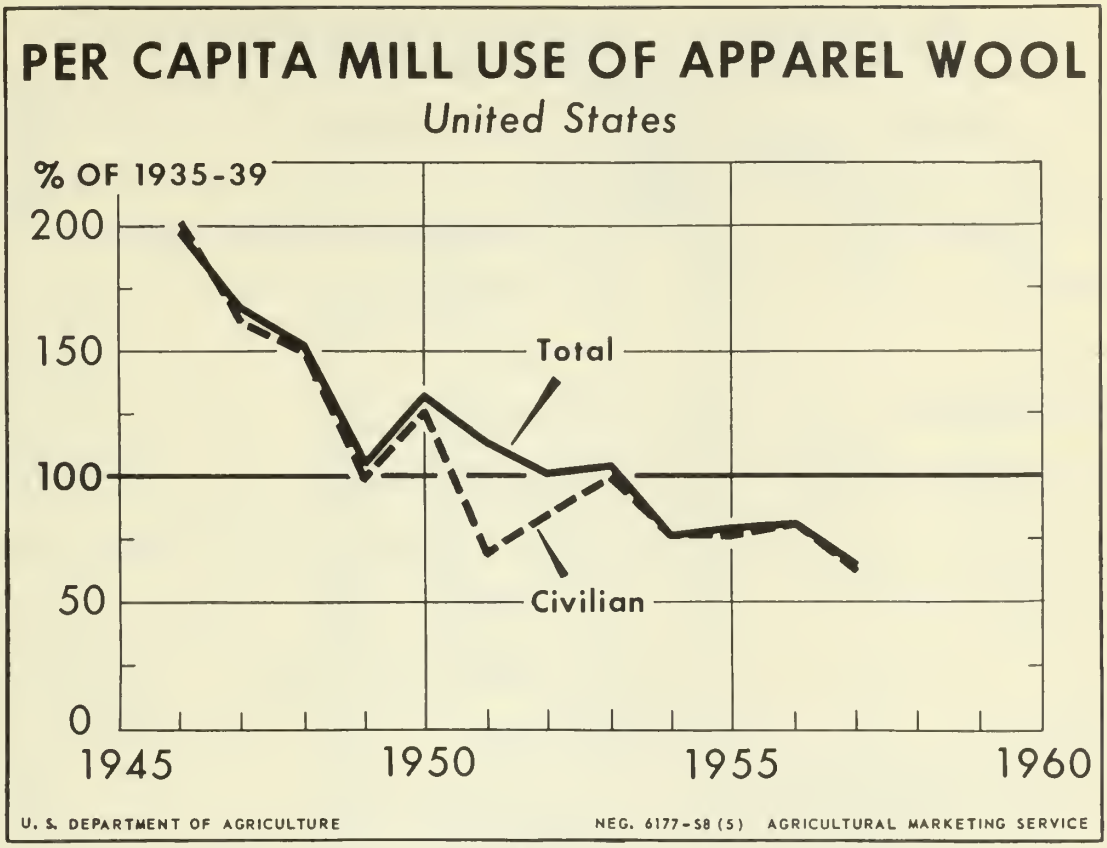



Figure 6

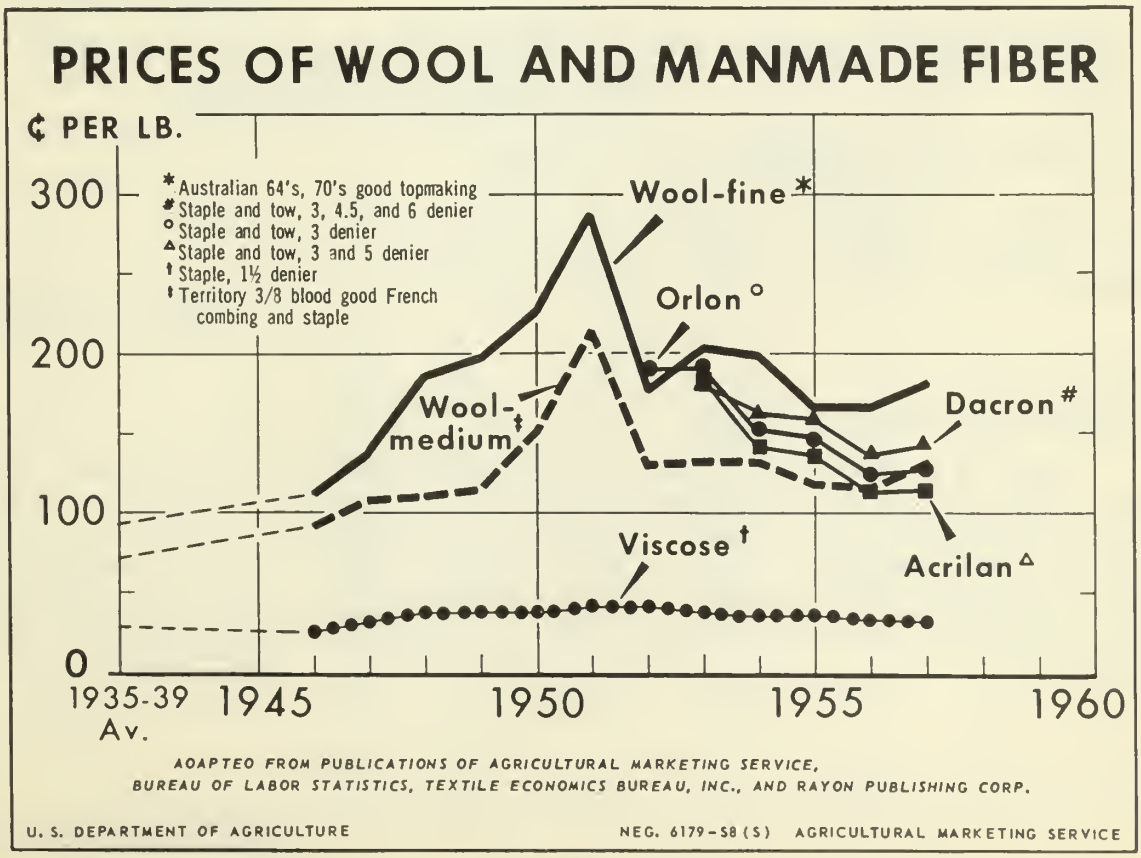

PRICES OF WOOL AND MANMADE FIBER
¢ PER LB.
300
200
100
0
* Australian 64's, 70's good topmaking
# Staple and tow, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier
° Staple and tow, 3 denier
△ Staple and tow, 3 and 5 denier
† Staple, 1½ denier
‡ Territory 3/8 blood good French combing and staple
Wool-fine *
Orlon °
Dacron #
Wool-medium ‡
Viscose †
Acrilan △
1935-39 Av.
1945
1950
1955
1960
ADAPTED FROM PUBLICATIONS OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, TEXTILE ECONOMICS BUREAU, INC., AND RAYON PUBLISHING CORP.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 6179-58 (5) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Figure 7

Table 1a--End uses of apparel wool, United States, 1955

| End use | Percent of total | End use | Percent of total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | Percent |
| Men's and boys' wear | | Children's and infants' wear | |
| Suits | 12 | Coats, jackets, etc. | 4 |
| Slacks | 6 | Other | 2 |
| Outdoor jackets | 6 | Total | 6 |
| Overcoats and topcoats | 4 | Home furnishings | 5 |
| Sweaters | 3 | Other consumer-type products | |
| Separate coats | 2 | Apparel linings | 6 |
| Other | 7 | Apparel piece goods | 6 |
| Total | 40 | Other | 2 |
| Women's and misses' wear | | Total | 14 |
| Coats | 14 | Industrial uses | |
| Skirts | 5 | Felts | 3 |
| Suits | 4 | Transportation upholstery | 1 |
| Dresses | 2 | Other | 1 |
| Sweaters | 2 | Total | 5 |
| Other | 3 | Total all uses | 100 |
| Total | 30 | | |

Adapted from Textile Organon.

The 18 items listed in tables 2a-4a accounted for 82-83 percent of the apparel wool end-use consumption in both 1949 and 1955. A summary of fiber use for these 18 items is shown in table 5a. It indicates that wool's share of the total quantity of fiber used in these 18 items declined from 47 percent in 1949 to 34 percent in 1955. During the same period, the proportion of the total accounted for by the manmade fibers increased from 23 percent to 33 percent.

**Table 2a.--Percentage distribution of fiber used in specified men's and boys' wear, United States, 1949 and 1955**

| Item | Year | Wool | Manmade | | | | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | Staple | | Yarn | |
| | | | | Cellulosic | Noncellulosic | | |
| | | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Winter suits | 1949 | 94.2 | 5.8 | 4.5 | --- | 1.3 | --- |
| | 1955 | 84.3 | 15.4 | 13.7 | .9 | .8 | .3 |
| Summer suits | 1949 | 51.0 | 40.4 | 26.9 | --- | 13.5 | 8.6 |
| | 1955 | 37.0 | 56.3 | 26.7 | 20.0 | 9.6 | 6.7 |
| Separate coats | 1949 | 54.4 | 36.0 | 36.0 | --- | --- | 9.6 |
| | 1955 | 38.1 | 53.9 | 51.0 | 2.9 | --- | 8.0 |
| Separate slacks | 1949 | 38.2 | 49.0 | 31.7 | .7 | 16.6 | 12.8 |
| | 1955 | 28.0 | 59.7 | 43.1 | 8.4 | 8.2 | 12.3 |
| Overcoats, topcoats, and stormcoats | 1949 | 90.5 | 8.6 | 7.8 | --- | .8 | .9 |
| | 1955 | 88.8 | 10.6 | 7.1 | 3.0 | .5 | .6 |
| Outdoor jackets | 1949 | 35.9 | 16.0 | 3.4 | .6 | 12.0 | 48.1 |
| | 1955 | 33.6 | 30.7 | 17.4 | .6 | 12.7 | 35.7 |
| Sweaters | 1949 | 79.2 | 6.0 | 4.9 | 1.1 | --- | 14.8 |
| | 1955 | 59.3 | 35.5 | .9 | 34.6 | --- | 5.2 |

From Textile Organon.

**Table 3a.--Percentage distribution of fiber used in specified women's, misses', children's, and infants' outerwear garments, United States, 1949 and 1955**

| Item | Year | Wool | Mamade | | | | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | Staple | | Yarn | |
| | | | | Cellulosic | Noncellulosic | | |
| | | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. |
| Women's and misses' | | | | | | | |
| Coats | 1949 | 94.9 | 4.4 | 4.4 | --- | --- | .7 |
| | 1955 | 84.2 | 14.1 | 6.3 | 5.9 | 1.9 | 1.7 |
| Skirts | 1949 | 35.9 | 38.0 | 28.5 | .5 | 9.0 | 26.1 |
| | 1955 | 29.1 | 36.2 | 29.7 | 2.3 | 4.2 | 34.7 |
| Suits | 1949 | 78.8 | 19.4 | 12.4 | --- | 7.0 | 1.8 |
| | 1955 | 50.6 | 43.2 | 34.9 | 1.4 | 6.9 | 6.2 |
| Sweaters | 1949 | 72.8 | 20.4 | 1.6 | 18.8 | --- | 6.8 |
| | 1955 | 31.9 | 66.0 | 1.1 | 63.8 | 1.1 | 2.1 |
| Children's and infants' | | | | | | | |
| Coats, jackets, etc. | 1949 | 70.6 | 13.7 | 9.5 | --- | 4.2 | 15.7 |
| | 1955 | 58.5 | 27.3 | 14.5 | .9 | 11.9 | 14.2 |
| Sweaters | 1949 | 72.0 | --- | --- | --- | --- | 28.0 |
| | 1955 | 28.4 | 55.6 | 4.5 | 51.1 | --- | 16.0 |

From Textile Organon.

The table also indicates that the total quantity of fiber used in these 18 items increased 21 percent between 1949 and 1955. But the quantity of wool used dropped 14 percent, while use of manmade fibers increased 77 percent and use of other fibers, mostly cotton, increased 33 percent. Apparently, a large part of the decline in wool consumption and in wool's share of the total results from the substitution of other fibers for wool.

Of the manmade fibers, rayon and acetate were until recent years the major competitors. The greatly improved quality and relatively lower prices of these fibers encouraged their use in some of these areas. Several new fibers have been introduced and, as indicated in the tables, have become important competitors. Figure 7 shows prices of wool and some of the manmade fibers. It serves to give some idea of the price relationships. However, in an analysis of these relationships and their effect on the competitive position of wool, consideration should be given to the fact that wool is a heterogeneous commodity with each type best suited for a particular end-use or group of end-uses. The situation as regards the manmade fibers is similar in that they are now being engineered for specific end-uses. Also, as mentioned earlier, allowance should be made for differences in processing costs, processing losses, coverage, and wear-life.

Another factor in the decline in apparel wool consumption in the United States has been the shift toward more casual, functional clothing. This shift appears to have accelerated the trend to lighter weight apparel, a trend which has resulted in both the use of lighter weight fabric and the use of fewer yards of fabric per garment.

Table 4a--Percentage distribution of fiber used in home furnishings, other consumer type products, and industrial uses, United States, 1949 and 1955

| Item | Year | Wool | Manmade | | | | | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Total | Staple | | | Yarn | |
| | | | | Cellulosic | Non-cellulosic | | | |
| | | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | Pct. | | Pct. | Pct. |
| Home furnishings | | | | | | | | |
| Blanketing | 1949 | 30.0 | 14.7 | 12.2 | --- | | 2.5 | 55.3 |
| | 1955 | 21.3 | 41.3 | 35.0 | 3.4 | | 2.9 | 37.4 |
| Other consumer type products | | | | | | | | |
| Apparel lining | 1949 | 17.9 | 38.0 | 2.5 | --- | | 35.5 | 44.1 |
| | 1955 | 17.4 | 32.7 | 2.7 | --- | | 30.0 | 49.9 |
| Apparel piece goods | 1949 | 27.1 | 33.4 | 6.5 | --- | | 26.9 | 39.5 |
| | 1955 | 16.6 | 30.3 | 17.9 | 1.6 | | 10.8 | 53.1 |
| Industrial uses | | | | | | | | |
| Transportation upholstery | 1949 | 48.0 | 10.7 | 7.5 | 2.1 | | 1.1 | 41.3 |
| | 1955 | 5.6 | 20.0 | 9.4 | .3 | | 10.3 | 74.4 |
| Felts | 1949 | 46.1 | 1.0 | --- | 1.0 | | --- | 52.9 |
| | 1955 | 44.0 | 3.8 | --- | 3.4 | | .4 | 52.2 |

From Textile Organon.

Table 5a.--Percentage distribution of fiber used in 18 major wool-using items, United States, 1949 and 1955

| Fiber | Percent of total fiber used | | Change in amount used between 1949 and 1955 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1949 | 1955 | |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Wool | 47.3 | 33.7 | -14 |
| Manmade fiber | | | |
| Staple | | | |
| Cellulosic | 9.1 | 18.0 | +140 |
| Noncellulosic | .7 | 5.4 | +822 |
| Total staple | 9.8 | 23.4 | +189 |
| Yarn | 12.8 | 9.7 | -8 |
| Total manmade | 22.6 | 33.1 | +77 |
| Other fiber | 30.1 | 33.2 | +33 |
| Total fiber | 100.0 | 100.0 | +21 |

These items, listed in tables 2a-4a, accounted for 82-83 percent of the wool, including new, reused, and reprocessed wool and other animal fibers used in both 1949 and 1955 in the production of items other than floor coverings.

From Textile Organon.

The downward trend in mill use of apparel wool in the United States also reflects the upward trend of net imports of wool manufactures over the postwar period.

Another trend of interest is the relative decline in consumer expenditure for clothing in the United States during the postwar period. Certainly some of the factors associated with this trend also have contributed to the decline in apparel wool consumption. In 1946, consumer expenditures for clothing, excluding footwear, accounted for 10.3 percent of personal consumer expenditures for all goods and services. In 1955, they accounted for only 6.6 percent, a shrinkage of over one-third. If the effect of price changes, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of consumers' prices for apparel, is eliminated, total expenditures for clothing dropped sharply between 1946 and 1949. Although they fluctuated somewhat from year to year between 1949 and 1954, there was no noticeable upward or downward movement. They turned upward in 1955. Per capita expenditures for clothing, in terms of constant dollars, declined 25 percent between 1946 and 1954. After an increase in 1955 and again in 1956, they declined in 1957. However, in spite of the decline, 1957 per capita clothing expenditure was over 5 percent higher than in 1954.

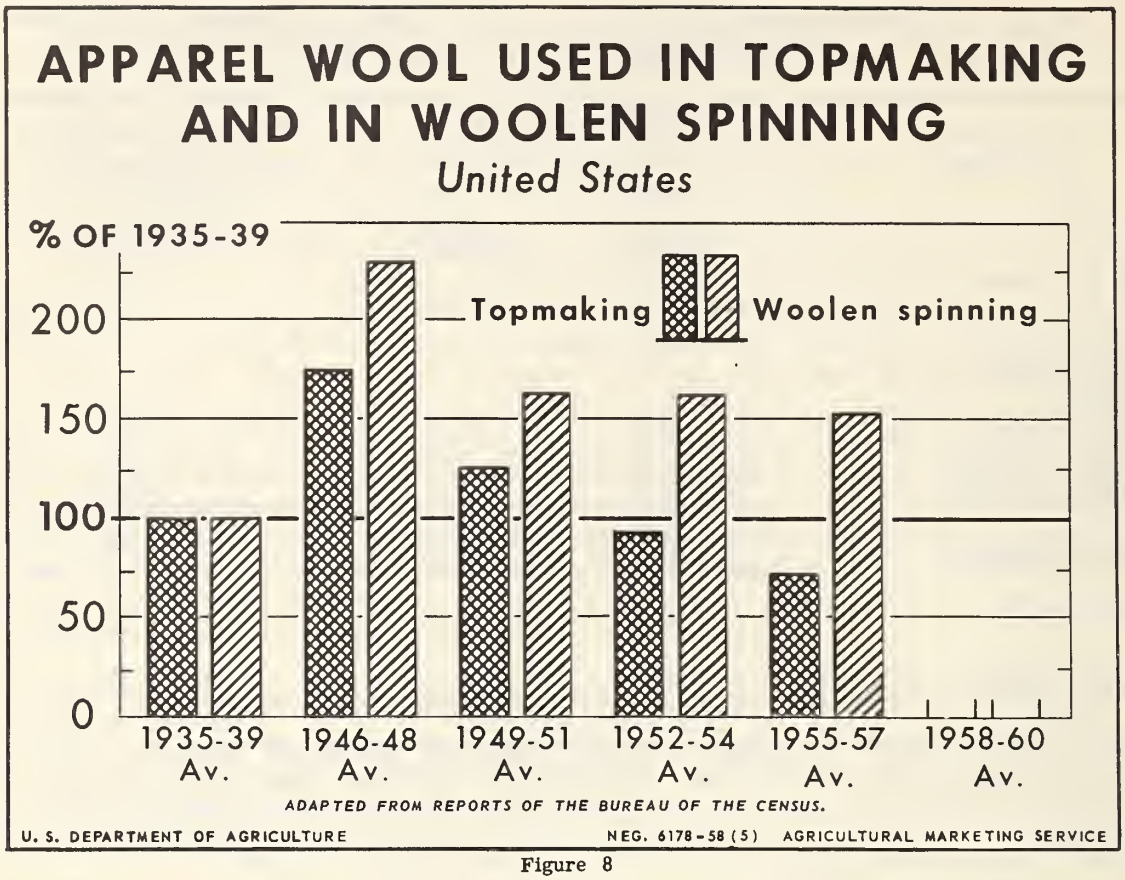



Figure 8

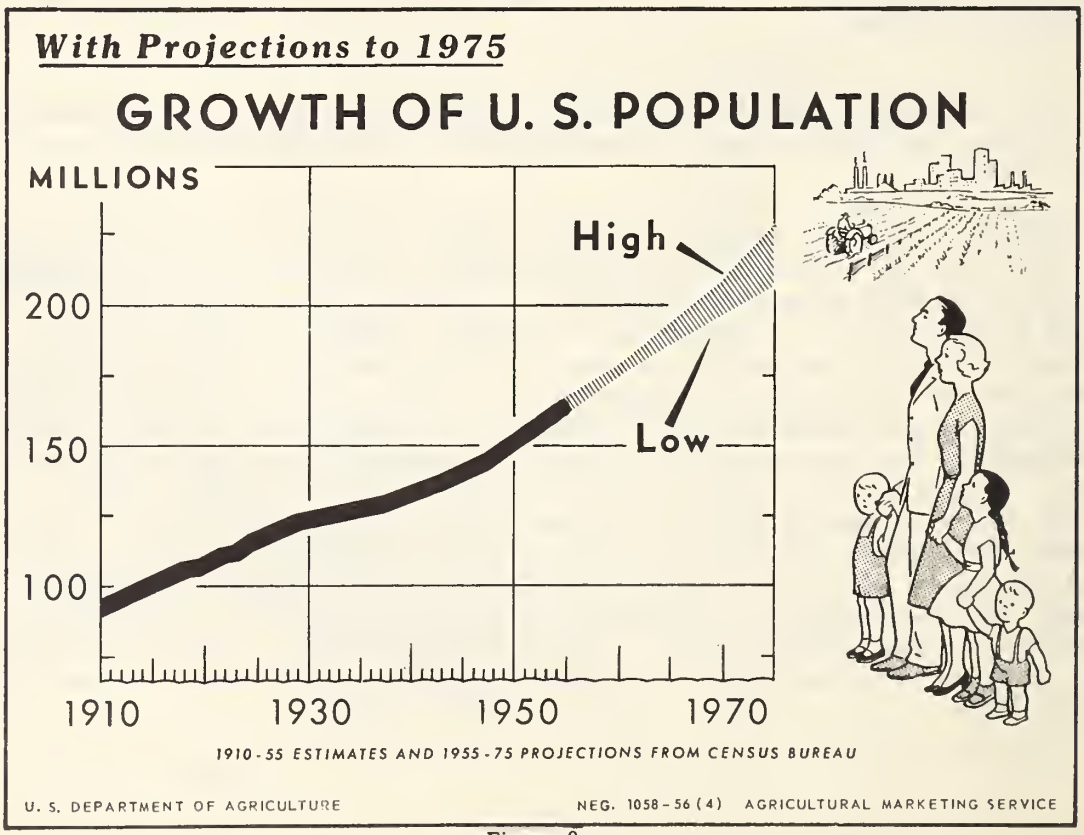



Figure 9

Among the expenditure-depressing factors were the relatively greater increase in the population of children and older people, both groups requiring relatively smaller clothing expenditure; changes in the geographic distribution of the population; and the trend to suburban living.

The postwar decline in use of apparel wool has been accompanied by a marked shift in the relative importance of woolen and worsted processing (fig. 8). Whereas two-thirds of the apparel wool used before the war was consumed in topmaking, only 50 percent was so used during the last 3 years. Right after the war, use by both systems was considerably greater than prewar, although the increase in woolen spinning was considerably greater than that for topmaking. Also, the decline in topmaking since the immediate postwar years has been much greater than that for woolen spinning. As a result, average annual use of wool in topmaking over the last 3 years, was 54 million pounds, scoured basis, below prewar, while use of wool in woolen spinning averaged 47 million pounds more than prewar. This shift is a reflection of technological advances, attempts to hold down costs, and style and fashion changes.

So far, the discussion of wool consumption has been limited to the postwar decline. What about the future? Population projections for 1975, prepared in 1955, range from 207 to 228 million people (fig. 9). This represents an increase of from about 20 to almost 35 percent. Such an increase would add considerably to total demand for fiber and to its consumption. To what extent will apparel wool share in the increase? Trends are sometimes indicators of things to come. However, they can be and sometimes are reversed. Whether the downtrend in apparel wool consumption continues or is reversed will depend to a large extent on relative prices and costs, research, and promotion.

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